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See Page 16.

JOHN BULL

VOL. XXVII. No. 728. SATURDAY, MAY 15, 1920. TWOPENCE.

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

Edited by HORATIO BOTTOMLEY

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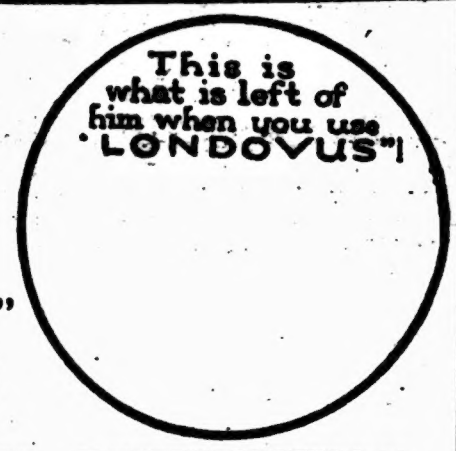

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SUPREME IN STYLE, FIT, FASHION and LUXURIOUS COMFORT.

You are perfectly corseted when you wear an Ambron Gold Medal Health Corset. So true is the Model to the natural lines of figure beauty and grace, so stylish the design and fashion that luxurious comfort in wear combines with ideal fit and appearance to place the Ambron on the highest level of artistic corsetry.

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The Ambron Health Corset is distinctly the wear of every woman who studies her appearance. So perfect is the style and modelling of this scientifically designed corset that natural grace of form is at once enhanced, and figures that seem unsatisfactory in ordinary corsets take on a new beauty of line and curve when the Ambron Corset is worn. Added to all is the sense of health improvement which the Ambron Corset so surely promotes.

NOW IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY.

It is because I wish to prove my claims that I make this exceptional offer. I know that there is no corset value to be compared with that I offer, and I realise that the woman of perception will appreciate that fact when she sees and examines the Ambron Gold Medal Health Corset. I know also that the lady who once wears an Ambron Corset will never again be satisfied with ordinary corsets.

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See how the lines of beauty of this 1920 Model Ambron Corset will improve your figure and enable your dressmaker to cut and fit your new dress on more stylish lines. Don't miss this opportunity of seeing this for yourself—as thereby you will both improve your figure and appearance in your new wear. Send only 1/6 P.O. with the following Coupon, and this beautiful Corset will be sent "On Appro." You can keep the Corset as yours and pay the balance of 9/- in one sum or by instalments—as most convenient to you.

HOW TO ORDER.

Simply write your full name and address on a piece of paper, fill in your corset measurements on coupon below, cut out and pin coupon to the paper, and post to me at once. It is most important that you draw two lines right across the postal order, thus / / , and make it payable to Ambrose Wilson, Ltd., at General Post Office, London.

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Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
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"For forms of government let fools contest;
Whate'er is best administered is best."—*Pope.*

Vol. XXVII. No. 728. **Week ending Saturday, May 15th, 1920.** **Twopence.**

"THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL."

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

"Illegitimate Parents."

The House of Commons generally appreciated our protest, during the debate on the Bastardy Bill, not only against the title of the measure, but also against the hackneyed phrase "illegitimate children," and agreed with us that Nature, as we said, is inviolate and incorruptible, and that "illegitimate parents" was the correct thing to talk about.

A Suggestion.

And we should like to repeat our suggestion that all the cumbersome and dangerous paternity provisions of the Bill should be dropped, and that it should be confined to two simple clauses—(1) automatically legitimising children born out of wedlock on the subsequent marriage of their parents, and (2) increasing the contribution of the putative father beyond the present statutory limit of ten shillings a week.

Absent Members.

By the way, where was Lady Astor during the debate on this important measure—affecting, as it does, thousands of unhappy mothers and children throughout the land? And where were the sixty Labour Members who had officially resolved to "support the Bill"?

Italy.

Our advices are to the effect that America and Britain, between them, have thrown Italy into the arms of Germany, and that before long we shall see an alliance between the two countries. Oh, that San Remo Conference!

Not Always.

According to the *Daily Herald*, "the capitalist newspapers are always ready to maintain the cause of the capitalist." Has it ever heard of the Army and Navy Stores and the Lewis strikes—to say nothing of the Prudential agents' agitation?

Pre-War Uniform.

So it has not yet been officially decided whether officers are to revert to their pre-war uniforms; and, if so, who is to bear the heavy cost of the scarlet jackets, bearskin helmets, and other prehistoric trappings. Khaki for ever, say we.

City Churches.

At last, it appears, many of the redundant and usually empty City churches are to come down. Do you remember the story of the incumbent of one of them, whose congregation generally consisted of the sexton, and who accordingly commenced the service with "Dearly beloved Roger"?

The Liberal Spirit.

We are afraid that the recent proceedings at Leamington leave us quite cold. Who on earth in these days cares a rap whether Mr. Asquith or Mr. Lloyd George is the titular leader of the Liberal, or any other, Party?

An Imperial Triumph.

We join heartily in the congratulations which have been extended to Col. Grant Morden, M.P., on the completion of his great Canadian Steel and Shipping combine. It will save the Dominion from the rapacious claws of America.

Canada and America.

By the way, our Canadian readers are delighted at our exposure of America's war policy. As the Dominion JOHN BULL—*Jack Canuck*—says: "In every case where it was a question of Canadian interests being at stake, they have been sacrificed to conserve 'American friendship.'"

£1,000!

DERBY PRIZE

MUST BE WON.

Free Coupon and Particulars on page iii of cover.

"We Celts."

In his last interview with the Press at San Remo, Mr. Lloyd George tried to smooth over recent misunderstandings by saying, "We Celts are so much more suspicious than the Anglo-Saxons." Rough on England.

America.

What is the explanation of the conspiracy of silence on the part of the general Press in regard to our various questions in the House of Commons relative to the undoubtedly "unfriendly act" of America in allowing de Valera not only to receive the freedom of various cities in the United States, but also to advertise and receive subscriptions for the "Irish Republic" Loan?

"K" Company, R.E.

If ever persistency in a just cause deserved to be rewarded, it is in the case of the telegraphists who left civil employment during the war to serve with the R.E.s—and are now told that the time during which they were so engaged will not count for pension. Nothing more absurd or unjust can well be imagined.

An Unfounded Rumour.

Much consternation was caused in the West-End bars the other night by a rumour that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had decided to impose a stamp duty on I.O.U.s.

A Bolshevist Example.

We commend to our Labour friends the example of Bolshevist Moscow, where May Day was celebrated by extra work all round. How friend Kenworthy's blood must boil at such Red Russian tyranny!

A Broad-Minded Cleric—

Hats off to the Rev. Bruce Cornford, of Portsmouth, who asks the Parochial Council to kindly note that it does not consist of "ladies and gentlemen," but of men and women, adding that "foolish class distinctions should have no place in the Church." What a change is coming over the clerical mind!

And Another.

Three cheers also for the Rev. A. Cuming, Vicar of Addlestone, Surrey, who congratulates the Richmond Cricket Club on having secured permission to play in the Park on Sundays and "hopes in due time to see our kiddies playing, too, in their recreation ground." Kindly consider the last sentence of the previous paragraph repeated.

Armenia!

Of all the funny things which Mr. Lloyd George told us about the San Remo Congress, nothing was more comical than the announcement that America—who has definitely washed her hands of European politics—is to be asked to act as mandatory for Armenia. Why not for Ireland, too?

"Exchange" No Robbery.

Thus a reader writing from France: "I did a bit of shopping at the Gallerie Lafayette in Paris the other day, making purchases in three different departments. In the first—I was paying in English money—I got change at the rate of 65, in the second, at 64.50, and, in the third, at 64." The Gallerie must be in close touch with the Bourse.

The Dover Patrol.

According to *Truth*, Major Wrench has just arrived in New York with the sum of six thousand pounds "to be devoted to a statue celebrating the Dover Patrol." Our contemporary states that the Americans "are quite at a loss to know whether the proposed memorial is intended to glorify the police at Dover (Delaware), or Dover (New Hampshire), or Dover (Tennessee), all of which cities have police patrols"!

"Working to Rules."

May we suggest to those extremists among the railwaymen who still seem to cherish the idea of paralysing railway traffic by working strictly "to the book," that the old rule under which an employee is liable to instant dismissal for accepting "tips" has never been abolished?

Chloroformed Coffee.

Before the war, asserts a correspondent, a German brand of coffee was placed on the British market from which the caffein was eliminated by the use of chloroform. The same coffee, says our informant, is now coming to England again, camouflaged as "Swiss." There would thus seem to be two adequate reasons for avoiding this particular beverage.

"Not as I Do."

To hear the Chancellor of the Exchequer *preach* economy is a rare and refreshing experience. And this is how some Government departments *practise* it. A boot repairer in a biggish way of business informs us that during the past week or so he has received from the Home Office seven separate but identical sets of the Regulations under the Trade Boards Act, applying to his business, each envelope containing two large posters and a quantity of "literature." Meanwhile, as our friend ruefully reflects, his Income Tax assessment has been doubled.

A Woman's Wail.

There is something heart-appealing in a letter we have from a woman who says she has lived in shame for ten years as a result of having married the wrong partner. "If I could only marry the man I live with," she writes, "though I am only very poor, I should be one of the happiest women in London, as I could then satisfy my longing. I would give the world to have just one wee baby, just one little life for my very own; but until the law is altered body and soul must just keep on aching for the babies I long for and dare not bring into the world to be ashamed of their mother." What says Lady Astor?

Monkton Combe Snobs.

We can make room for lots of sympathy with the Rev. Percy Warrington, Vicar of Monkton Combe, near Bath. For no other reason, apparently, than that in an eloquent and moving memorial sermon he did not differentiate between "the fallen officers of Monkton School and the fallen village boys," the chief pedagogue has intimated to the parson that the sermon has greatly angered the School. Hence all sorts of dust has been kicked up in the village, and the Vicar naturally resents being expected to take most of it. Monkton School seems well qualified to teach snobbery.

Buxton Busybodies.

A young widowed woman of Buxton has good reason to complain of the busybodies in her neighbourhood. She has four children, the eldest 9. She keeps a little shop, and in default of its keeping her, receives £1 a week Poor Law relief. The other day a friend gave her two or three tickets for evening entertainments. To get "a little pleasure out of life" she made use of them, and some informant has been evil enough to report the matter to the Paying Committee. She wants to know what she can do. Surely it is unnecessary for her to do anything. The Buxton "Paying Committee" have more common sense than to notice such a complaint.

Flat Premiums.

As so many of our contemporaries are denouncing the iniquitous system of requiring exorbitant premiums to secure the tenancy of a house or flat, they could help to put a stop to this form of profiteering, and show their sincerity in the matter, by refusing to insert advertisements containing such a demand.

The Gardeners' Grouse.

Farmers are now compelled to pay their labourers a standard rate of wages. But the labourer in a gentleman's garden has, perforce, to be content with the best wages he can obtain—which, in thousands of cases, fall short of those paid to farm hands. Is advantage taken of the fact that the private gardener has no Union, and that a good many "Trade Unionists" in organised industries blackleg him in their spare time.

The Austrian's Return.

This is how it reads in a Scottish newspaper: "At the Court for the Dunfermline District, Ignaz Louis Weber, an Austrian, who held the licence for the Woodside Hotel, Aberdour, from 1896 until May, 1917, when it was withdrawn in consequence of his removal from Aberdour, had his certificate restored to him." Now that he is back at the beer-pull, Herr Weber may reflect that, all things considered, he has got off pretty cheaply. Many gallant fellows who sacrificed all but life in the fight for Freedom are finding it far less easy to get back to the old pitch.

"Key-Money" Going.

There were four unfurnished rooms to let, the other day, on the ground floor of a big house at Islington, the rental being 22s. 6d. weekly, four weeks' rent required in advance. Nor were these the whole of the modest demands advertised by Messrs. C. P. Kitchen and Co., Mile End Road, E., intending applicants being warned in advance that there would be "£25 for the key." As we have several times pointed out, such premiums are flatly illegal. Fortunately the new Rent Restriction Bill will make it less easy for grasping landlords to circumvent the law.

A "Light" Job.

Lieut.-Gen. Sir Charles Fergusson, of Maybole, near Glasgow, wants what he does not deserve to get. In a recent issue of the *Glasgow Herald* the Lieut.-General advertises for "a groom (married) to take charge of two children's ponies, drive pony cart, and also do odd man's work in house, boots, coal and wood, and odd jobs." The wages offered are 35s. weekly with a house and coal, and the successful applicant, we note, "must be light weight." He will need to be, and it is to be hoped the missus and kids will take after him in this respect. Else they'll surely starve.

Precept and Practice.

The National Union of Clerks takes exception to our recent comments on the wages of its clerical staff, and informs us that the £3 15s. a week we named is "a commencing salary for young men and women of twenty-one years of age, carrying with it automatic annual increments up to at least £4 10s." Surely this is beside the mark. The real point is that trade union principles call for flat rates of pay, and that the amounts paid by the unions to their own clerical staffs compare unfavourably with the rates imposed upon employers for manual labour.

Lashes for Women?

Lashes for men who ill-treat children is one thing; lashes for women who ill-treat them is assuredly another. "A Mother" asserts that such women are "as deserving a hiding as a man," adding that "these are days of sex equality, and woman do certainly not desire to run with the hare and hunt with the hounds." Sex equality can never break down the barrier of mercy in such a matter.

Slow in Essex.

In Essex, the County Constabulary on pension do not receive their allowance until the end of the current quarter and sometimes ten days or so are added to that period of weary waiting. But tradesmen will not give three months' credit, and the men are hard put to it to make ends meet. After all, the money has to be parted with in the end, and there is nothing gained by unnecessary and stupid delay.

A Trifling Miscalculation.

Recently the State Railway Administration in South Africa went to the expense of importing a number of first-class locomotives of a new and improved pattern, only to find that they were too big for the tunnels over a large part of the system. In this dilemma the disappointed officials are now gravely considering whether to expand the tunnels or reduce the size of the engines. The South African railways are "nationalised." *Verb. Sap.!*

Wasting their Time.

Numbers of men have cause of complaint against people who advertise for hands and then inform applicants there is no vacancy. A recent misdemeanant was a City firm, whose announcement appeared in a daily more than once. Men who called on a Tuesday, as invited by that morning's paper, were told, after waiting nearly two hours, that the job had been filled on the preceding Friday. This is sheer and wanton waste of men's time and money. To delude out-of-works is mean.

Plain English.

When will Government Departments and large employers of labour learn that the failure to use plain English is a constant cause of labour unrest? One of the latest instances comes from the North Eastern Railway, many of whose employees have been considerably perturbed because they feared that their holidays would be shortened under the terms of a new agreement. That fear is actually groundless, but it would never have arisen if the agreement had not been drawn up in "official" English.

Hunnish.

Two years before the war a London young woman married a Hun waiter, who is the father of her child. When war broke out the man returned to Germany and joined the army. Throughout the war he did not contribute a penny towards the support of his wife and child, and she had to become a waitress in order to live. She has now received a letter from him saying he does not intend to return to "hated England," and advises her to get a divorce. Unfortunately evidence on which she could obtain one is not available, and she will be tied to the Hun until it is. There are probably not a few desertions of this kind, and a clause ought to go into the Buckmaster Bill to cover them.

Local Limerick.

There was a young man named Darewski,
With a contract he burned to put throughski;
So he fixed to employ
A messenger boy,
In a trip to the York that is Newski.

The Anomalous Hubby.

Probably there never was a Finance Act without its anomaly, and probably there never will be. But a very obvious one is disclosed by the case of a married man who, separated from his wife, nevertheless maintains her, and is treated for Income-Tax "precisely as a single man and receives no consideration whatever." The grievance has every claim to adjustment.

Taking the Cake.

The Banbury Guardians having closed their casual ward during the war, and having since found it necessary to make some provision for men "on the road," including unemployed ex-soldiers, have now decided on a new system of relief. The Chief Constable is to be provided with tickets of the value of ninepence, to be given to applicants at the police station. After paying for his night's "doss" out of this generous subsidy, the out-of-work should have just enough left to buy a Banbury cake.

Comical Control.

A resident of Arlesey, Beds., desiring to change her grocer for the purchase of butter, sugar, etc., wrote for permission, as is required, to the local Food Controller. The necessary form was duly filled in, and the event was awaited. Meantime the local Food Controller had written to the original retailer asking if he had *any objection* to his customer dealing elsewhere! If this is a general practice, it would appear that our retailers are in reality our food controllers. Could bureaucratic red tape go further in unmitigated absurdity?

A Skipper's Generosity.

In a recent issue we alluded to the plucky conduct of Second Steward Mason of the s.s. *Ortega*, whose timely action had averted a panic on board that vessel during a trying time at sea, and to the good fortune of the Captain, who had been presented by the grateful passengers with an honorarium of £100—our final observation being that "a fiver or so for the plucky steward might not have been amiss." However, we now learn that the money was given to the Captain to be used at discretion, and that he distributed the whole of it among the crew, retaining nothing for himself. Well done, skipper!

A Scotch Scandal.

The Fife Education Authority, requiring a Chief School Medical Officer, advertised the vacant post. There resulted five applications, three from doctors who served in the war, one from a medico over military age who had taken the place of one younger on service, and the fifth from a Dr. Arno Krause, a young man, and an alien by birth, of the Carnegie Trust, Dunfermline. Notwithstanding strong protests throughout the county, Dr. Krause was elected to the post. However, the Secretary for Scotland has instructed the Scottish Board to withhold their approval of this scandalous appointment. Are the members of the Fife Education Authority men, or what Carlyle would have called phantasms?

Lunatic.

At times it would almost appear that some of our Public Departments are officered by escaped lunatics. For instance, it is a fact that motor lorries purchased in Belgium for sale in London are not allowed to bring a load from, say, Leith to London, because they only display a temporary trade number plate. The result is that they make the costly journey empty instead of doing their share of the transport work so essential to-day.

Patriotism.

Two items of news from the same day's papers:—

Monmouthshire County Council are providing hospitality for fifty Austrian children for one year.

Salford, Lancs., Corporation decided yesterday not to pay wages to employees while absent in Territorial Army training camps.

Some of our public bodies seem to be in need of a reminder that we were recently engaged in a war.

'Phone Fakement.

Another instance of 'phone profiteering: A City firm recently changed its title by the addition of a couple of words. In the twinkling of an eye up bobs the telephone representative of the P.M.G. with a sheaf of forms, and coolly demands £4 for transferring the use of the telephone. "No work whatever was involved, and the instrument now stands where it has stood for the last 20 years and is used by the same people." As a daylight hold-up, this surely beats old Deadwood Dick.

Spirits.

Whisky figures scarcely bear out Mr. Chamberlain's contention that the trade's profit is "still more than reasonable." At 10s. 6d. a bottle for spirit, Government took 5s. 10d. Now it is after 7s. 10d. A retailer, with fresh stock just delivered, has to pay 11s. 5½d. per bottle; at 10s. 6d., he paid 9s. 1d. So the distillers have charged him 2s. 4½d. increase on the Budget figure of 2s. Our informant holds an off-licence; if all his fellows are served in similar fashion they suffer a great injustice.

The *Flush* Scandal.

More about the donothingariansim of the Board of Trade in regard to the scandal arising out of the loss of the American-owned vessel *Flush* in November last. The widow of the late steward informs us, through a friend, that not only has she been unable to draw insurance money or benefit from the Society of Free Gardeners owing to not having a death certificate, but also that about £10 was due to her late husband as wages, which the Board of Trade have failed to claim from the owners on her behalf. That the dependent relatives of the crew should have such an iniquity of delay inflicted upon them is a cruel injustice.

Carrion.

The attention of the local Health authorities should be drawn to the Anglo-Belgian Meat Co., Derby Grove, Boaler Street, Liverpool, which is advertising for worn-out horses "for killing for human food," stating that "we do not care what complaint they have." This concern, according to its advertisement, carries on the business of licensed horse slaughterers. If the carcasses be intended for Belgium, as the name of the firm seems to imply, what has our Ally done that it should be poisoned with carrion?

Missing.

The Huns are still suspect of holding war prisoners in secret places. The latest confirmation is the return to Brittany of five French infantrymen taken prisoner on the Yser in 1915, and confined in Hun prisons from where they were prevented sending news, not being released until Frankfort was occupied.

Three Months Only.

Though a beast named Gordon had been twice previously convicted for a similar offence, Sheriff-Substitute Orr at Edinburgh recently passed the comparatively trivial sentence of three months' imprisonment for indecently assaulting a child of five. Lenient treatment of such beasts will not save children in Edinburgh from corruption.

Fish.

Plain facts regarding the price of fish when landed on the coast as compared with the cost to consumer in towns is rather startling. Consider this, from Milford Haven:—"To-day 150 stone of best live whiting could be bought for 5s. on this market. Good live codling fetched 7d. for 14 lb., and no one was eager to buy. It has been so in every port this week." When we remember prices in London and other cities, we wonder who pockets the boodle.

The Tempters.

For seven years the firm of Messrs. Hindhaugh, grain merchants, of Newcastle, have employed Thomas Johnson Elliott as a clerk, and his salary is now £2 a week. Even a starvation wage is no excuse for embezzlement, and the clerk has admitted having taken the firm's money. Such a wage is, however, an obvious incitement to dishonesty, and if we were on a judicial bench or in a jury box we should say that Messrs. Hindhaugh have only got what they might have expected, because it is about what they have asked for.

"Pussyfoot City."

The new Garden City on the Hog's Back, which is financially supported by the Guildford Town Council and the Earl of Onslow, is to provide accommodation for a thousand families, and to be run on Pussyfoot lines. In other words, the harassed paterfamilias who wants a residence must do without a public-house, and deprive himself of a drop of beer at the end of his day's work. Such dictation of the habits of the community is undemocratic and tyrannical in the highest degree, and it would be interesting to know whether the members of the Guildford Council and Lord Onslow are themselves *all* teetotalers.

"Poor Jack!"

At the signed request of over thirty of the crew, we give another concrete instance of the excessive charges made to merchant sailors. The s.s. *Port Macquarie* left London a few months ago for Australia, carrying 600 munition workers and their wives. For these favoured passengers a canteen was provided where they could purchase cigarettes at 3d. per packet, and 2s. 6d. per 100; tobacco at 6s. per lb., and matches at 6d. per dozen boxes. The crew were compelled to buy their little luxuries from the ship's store, where they were charged twice as much for cigarettes, 7s. per lb. for tobacco, and 9d. per dozen for matches. Who pocketed the extra profits?

CANDID COMMUNICATIONS.

This page is devoted to Open Letters to Celebrities, Notorieties, and, occasionally, Nonentities.

To Ralph Bankes, Esq., Stipendiary Magistrate, South West London.

DEAR MR. BANKES,—That Battersea barman charged with the theft of sums of money and several articles gets off far more lightly than the woman he had robbed. She, I understand, has to make good the rascal's defalcations, whilst he escapes all liability, being simply bound over in the sum of £5. This seems to be one of the cases in which mercy has got the better of justice. JOHN BULL.

To the Rev. Slade Ettrick Maughan-Ettrick, Rector of Little Ilford, Essex.

DEAR MR. RECTOR,—I recall the distressing occasion of your arrest and conviction for accosting young ladies in the Strand. On your appeal to London Sessions, the Magistrates have now decided that you didn't do so, and I am sure the congregation will be glad to hear it, to say nothing of the Bishop. I suppose we must all go down the Strand in the late evening sometimes, even if we *are* clergymen; but, on my conscience, I really hesitate to recommend it to gentlemen of your profession. JOHN BULL.

To Messrs. E. Mellor and W. Hartshorn, Nottingham Magistrates.

GENTLEMEN,—Following an accident, the name of a motorist appeared in the charge-sheet on the serious count of drunkenness while driving a car. However, his identity was studiously concealed, the Press being subsequently informed that the case had been disposed of by ordering the defendant to contribute £5 to the Poor Box. As you two gentlemen were the sitting Magistrates on this occasion, perhaps you can tell me why a charge so closely touching the public interest was not heard in open Court, and by what authority a gift to charity was allowed to take the place of a judicial penalty. And was the defendant's licence endorsed? JOHN BULL.

To Mr. J. Duncan, Rational Association Friendly Society, Manchester.

SIR,—Having been a member of your Juvenile Branch from the age of five years, a Bristol lad of 21 applied recently for transfer to the Adult Fund. But his application was refused—he has lost a leg in the service of his country. So you have no use for him, and he is offered the sum of £2 in full compensation for his forfeited rights. If the poor fellow's health had been impaired in such a way that he was likely to become a permanent burden upon your funds, I can understand that you might have had to impose special conditions—but to turn a man off simply because he has been maimed in the struggle for Freedom, and without so much as a word of sympathy, is not a "Friendly" act. JOHN BULL.

To Mrs. Hertha Ayrton, 41, Norfolk Square, W.

MADAM,—I have been deeply moved by your criticisms of the "deadly parsimony" of the War Office which caused delay in adopting your anti-gas fan. In May, 1915, you presented the invention freely to the authorities, and although it was recommended by the soldiers told off to investigate, it was not until more than a year later that it was taken up. It was subsequently recognised as being of the utmost value, but only a hundred thousand in all were made for use on the different fronts, although, it is said, "if millions had been sent, each million would have cost no more than the price of one hour of the war." Officialdom thus stands saddled with the preventable deaths of thousands of brave men. JOHN BULL.

To Arthur Brampton, Esq., Chairman, National Liberal Federation.

DEAR "CHAIR,"—I do not know whether you are proud of your part in the Leamington "bear garden," but I should advise you, before you again wield the hammer, to learn something of the ethics of chairmanship. By the way, the "Coales" did put it across you "Wee Frees," didn't they, when Sir Hamar Greenwood's big majority at Sunderland was announced? Votes mean more than shouts, Arthur, believe me! JOHN BULL.

To Mr. Freeman, Chemist, Radlett, Herts.

DEAR APOTHECARY,—Having, presumably, no use for the three rooms over your shop, you recently advertised them as suitable "for offices or business." In view of the appalling house shortage, do you think that was fair? The rooms over your premises were built to provide a home for the tradesman below. If you do not require them, let some houseless family rent them. I know of at least one applicant whom you refused, and no doubt there were many others. Be human. JOHN BULL.

To Mr. Justice Darling, Royal Courts of Justice.

MY LORD,—When you recently heard a breach of promise action, you declared that marriage with many people was, to-day, merely a preliminary to divorce, and suggested that if the couple in question had actually married, the result might very well have been an action in the adjoining Divorce Court. While there is nothing strikingly novel in your comments on the "go-as-you-please marriage" ideas of the day, am I right in assuming you hold that actions for breach of promise are not always desirable, since the breach may be a blessing in disguise? If so, you have my approval. JOHN BULL.

To Owen Wister, Esq., Author, New York.

MY DEAR SIR,—You have published a book called "A Straight Deal," and in that book you give Britain the "straight deal" denied to her by so many of your countrymen. I will quote just a few lines:—"Britain's armies held the enemy in three continents and on six fronts, and co-operated with her Allies on two more fronts. Her dead—those 658,000 dead—lie by the Tigris, the Zambesi, the Ægean, and across the world to Flanders fields." This is finely said, and is but a scrap gathered from your book, a book that, for once, tells America the truth. The Briton, who is proud to do things, does not say much, but in his name I thank you for doing him justice. JOHN BULL.

To Mr. C. T. Cramp, Joint Secretary, National Union of Railwaymen.

DEAR SIR,—Judging by the tone of your recent address to Ipswich railwaymen, you are beginning to adopt something of that moderation which characterises your fellow-secretary, Mr. J. H. Thomas, M.P. The "go-slow" or "working to rule" policy, you reminded your audience, was undemocratic, and although the executive of the National Union of Railwaymen were determined to obtain higher wages they were not responsible for this form of direct action. I also note that, referring to the proposed taxation of Co-operative Societies' profits, you asserted that "co-operators had got what they asked for, in thinking more of dividends than of co-operation." It always takes courage to utter an unpalatable truth, and the process requires, perhaps, more courage in a Labour leader than in most other people. JOHN BULL.

To Miss Fannie Hurst, Novelist, New York City.

DEAR FANNIE,—Beyond providing the Press of your native land with a new topic, you do not seem to have done much to solve the problems of marriage. Although you have been wedded for five years, you and your husband, it seems, prefer to live apart, and to meet only as friends, "as the only means of safeguarding individuality after the exchange of vows at the altar." In the circumstances, it hardly seems worth while to exchange vows at all. And your idea of retaining your maiden name, which the Transatlantic papers are heralding as the "last word," is really a very ancient idea. JOHN BULL.

To Mr. Lenham, Restaurant Proprietor, Weston-super-Mare.

DEAR BOSS,—When is a chef not a chef? According to local police-court proceedings, it is when you employ him at 2 guineas a week as chef and then set him to menial tasks and what he describes as very dirty work. You paid Connor, the man referred to, who is 67, only 25s. for the first week, and when he decided to quit at the second week, offered him 15s. When he demurred, according to report you called him "swine," pummelled, beat him, and drew blood, so that he had to seek the police and hospital. The beaks fined you but 40s. and costs, and I congratulate you on your undeserved good luck. Just think of it—pitching into an old man like that! JOHN BULL.

To Jurat Kinnersly, The States, Jersey.

OFFENSIVE SIR,—The other day you said, "In some cases of being 'gassed' I defy any doctor to say how much of the effects were due to gas and how much to bad cigarettes. Some of these men if they could get a soft job would be 'gassed' for ever." The reporter avers that this harsh and unfeeling utterance, couched in terms of bitter insult to the whole body of disabled heroes of the war, was received with "Laughter" and "Murmurs." It ought to have ensured your instant expulsion from any company of decent men. JOHN BULL.

To Sir Henry Lopes, Bart., Chairman, Devon County Council.

DEAR CHAIRMAN,—Perhaps it is a good job you did not have to sign your own illustrious name to that advertisement inviting applications for district clerkships in your Small Holdings Department. Indeed you may not even be aware that these somewhat responsible positions, for which high qualifications and "previous experience" are essential, are being offered at a salary "not exceeding £2 per week." However, you will now, I am sure, be eager to remove the reproach that must rest upon your Council while it offers less than a living wage for the discharge of important public duties. JOHN BULL.

To Major St. A. B. Warde, Chief Constable of Hampshire.

DEAR MAJOR,—Some of your officers have found a softer job than catching burglars. For instance at Lyndhurst, where there has lately been an outbreak of serious crime, not a single arrest has been effected, although a number of honest citizens have been needlessly interfered with. Perhaps the worst case is that of a busy medical practitioner, actually arrested in the midst of his daily round for leaving his motor-car unattended outside the houses of his patients in unfrequented parts of the Forest. If this sort of thing has your approval, you have lost what qualifications you ever possessed as the champion of Law and Order. JOHN BULL.

WRIGHTS IN THE WRONG.

EX-SOLDIER'S CALLOUS CLEAR-OUT NOTICE.

For 14 years Joseph Stark has occupied a cottage at Barrow-on-Soar owned by Mr. James Wright. Stark voluntarily enlisted in 1915, served in France and Salonika, is unable to follow his previous occupation as a shoeing-smith owing to malaria, and is now employed in a Leicester factory, leaving Barrow for his work by the 6.40 train every morning. Mr. Wright proposed to the Loughborough Magistrates that they should eject this man to make room for his gardener, on the ground that he had offered the tenant alternative accommodation at Quorn. Miss Wright, acting agent for her father, said in Court she thought it reasonable that this crocked ex-soldier should have to walk over a mile every morning from Quorn to Barrow, in order to save the legs of her father's able-bodied gardener. Happily for Stark, the Magistrates put the Wrights in the wrong, and he will remain in the cottage. A little walking exercise will do the gardener no harm.

BUSINESS AS USUAL.

CRAFTY GERMAN MERCHANT'S ADMISSION.

We recently named Herr A. G. Sprotte, of 65, Gartenstrasse, Breslau, as a German merchant intent by any and every means upon recovering his former footing in British markets. With characteristic impudence, this gushing alien now seeks to open up correspondence with us to assure us that "in the core of his heart" he is an Englishman, and loves us like a brother. This, of course, is a favourite German pose now that it is a question, not of stealing our territory or slitting our throats, but of worming their way into markets closed to them during the war. Herr A. G. Sprotte, of Breslau, protests that he had no part or lot in the wicked war. Perish any such base suspicion! "I was one among millions here," he tells us, "who were against the war commenced by Germany. As far as I could, I supported England and her Allies during war." The best refutation of this lying pretence is that its author lives to utter it. Having given the publicity he desires to an effusion typical of those with which Hun merchants are flooding this country, we have done with Herr Sprotte. He may take his stationer's rubbish and "beauties of the Orient," and go to—the home of the Hohenzollerns.

A HORSE'S DEATH.

MAGISTRATES AND REVOLTING CRUELTY CHARGE.

Even the solicitor retained for the defence found it difficult to excuse the conduct of Francis William Castleman, charged at the Henley County Sessions with ill-treating and neglecting a horse. The poor animal, a grey mare, was taken ill, suffering, its owner stated, from "fever in the feet," and in this helpless condition was turned out to grass, lying for days in a dying condition. The man admitted that he "did not send any straw or anything to protect the mare"; he considered that "lying on nice dry turf it could not have a better bed," and, presumably, although he did not say so, that nothing could be better for the sick animal than exposure to the rigours of our uncertain climate. The truth of the matter doubtless was that Castleman had ceased to concern himself with the animal's fate. "A very bad case," was the verdict of the Magistrates—and to show how angry they were, they fined the defendant £10, in which the bulk of the costs was included. The horse, you see, would have died anyhow, and if it suffered unnecessarily—well perhaps it had no more feeling than the Henley Bench.

OUR SEARCH FOR CHAMPIONS.

BY A. G. ("SMILER") HALES.

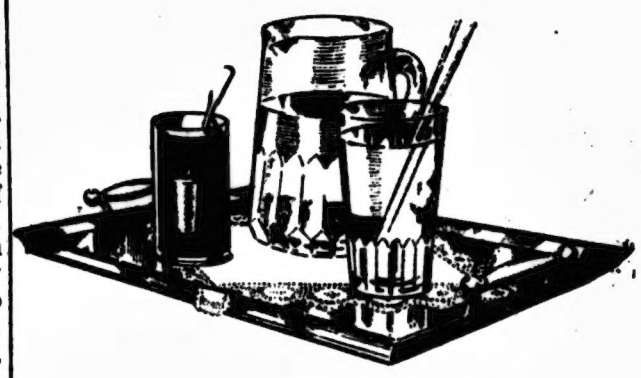
At the beginning of next July I shall select the best eight men I have been able to discover up to that date—one man in each class from heavy to flyweight. These eight lads I am authorised by JOHN BULL to put in training for three full months, and they are to have the benefit of constant teaching at the hands of the greatest fighting expert now alive in Britain. During the whole of the three months the men will be under my personal supervision. They will live in a house provided by Mr. Horatio Bottomley, M.P., and help each other as much as possible; there will be no room for jealousy, as each lad will represent a different class.

Now, may I ask promoters and all who are interested in boxing in every hole and corner of the country to run JOHN BULL competitions, and help to unearth the hidden talent and send the best to me? A few who have come my way are Jimmy O'Donnell, of Stockport; this lad, when polished up by a great artist, may annex the World's Belt. Fred Sale, a giant with a mighty punch; Jim Slater, grim and game; Clem Farthing, with possibilities in him that may make him a worthy rival even for Carpentier; Ed. Gallacher, a bulldog from Scotland; Tom Engindreener, rough, strong and tough as old oak; Jack Heathcote, of Hull, a lad who will go anywhere or do anything for a chance; Jack Seale, a man with a tremendous reach and a big heart; Mark Longmore, with a Jimmy Wilde punch; Charlie Needle, quick, keen and clever, a born fighter; Fred Stanley, a six-foot middle-weight; Tom Whitehouse, clever and game; Sergeant Alf Harris, a lad who will fight till he dies; Arthur Stanley, ten stone and nearly six feet; Young York, six-foot-six, fourteen-stone-ten; Jim Tyler, a lad who will stand cutting-up before he'd quit, and a host of others. The first preliminary competition will take place on or about the 30th of June, and I want to make my programme up for that date. Will promoters please send in their winning lists as early as possible? At present, I am searching Wales especially. Further particulars on Sporting page.

ORGANISED PROFITEERING.

LAW STRAINS AT GNAT AND SWALLOWS CAMEL.

It is possible to make quite handsome profits out of the necessities of the homeless, the way to work the oracle being nicely set forth in the prospectus of General House-Buyers, Ltd., a private company registered in 1920, with an authorised capital of £10,000. "This Company has been formed," we gather from its Memorandum of Association, "for the purpose of buying and selling house-property separately or in bulk and re-selling same singly for occupation or investment. . . . It is hardly necessary to point out that large profits are to be made at the present time, and for some time to come, by the purchase and sale of property, provided it is carefully selected. Frequently as much as 50 per cent. is cleared upon a single deal." Very nice for the "General House-Buyers," but not so nice for the particular house-buyer who, in addition to the heavy first cost of the property, has to contribute his quota towards the demands of these voracious middlemen. The Directors of General House-Buyers, Ltd., are Messrs. H. C. Foulkes, W. Bancroft Snell, and Andrew Johnson, two of these gentlemen, we are told, having had "wide and successful experience in this class of business," on the strength of which they promise a dividend of not less than 20 per cent. But is it not a strange legal anomaly that renders a tradesman liable to pains and penalties if he charges twopence too much for a teapot, while permitting the unchecked exploitation of folks urged by sheer necessity to a deal in bricks and mortar?



REFRESHMENT.

ALREADY a sunny day is a warm day. Already one feels more or less thirsty after a little exercise, and even a mental picture of a long cool tumbler is a pleasant thing. These, then, are the days for cold Glass Lemon, the perfect Summer drink.

Lemons are cooling and full of health, and Freeman's Glass Lemon is the product of real lemons and pure cane sugar.—Add water, nothing more, not even sugar.

Freeman's Glass Lemon

If unable to obtain Glass Lemon from your Grocer or Stores send us the Name and Address of your Retailer, with 1/3, and we will send you a canister of Glass Lemon post free.

Freeman's Foods, Ltd.

WATFORD—HERTS

"Where Pure Foods are made"

"THE LOVE CHILD."

LINKING THE HANDS OF HUMANITY ACROSS THE CENTURIES.

By Charles Palmer, M.P.

THERE is no more pathetic figure in this country of ours than the "unwanted child." Who can point to a victim of our social conditions less deserving of the cruelties of Fate than the little one clinging to the humanity of an unmarried mother? It makes one despair of our Christianity when we find well-meaning men—yes, and women—turning the cold shoulder of convention upon the innocent outcomes of what we are pleased to call—and must call—irregular unions. And yet the Church, looking back down the centuries, and hearing still the faint echoes of those wonderful words, "Suffer the little children to come unto Me," can find it in its heart to stand at the door and raise a stern hand forbidding sanctuary to the mother, and denying sanctity to the child.

It is a curious commentary upon mundane things that the same week which saw the Archbishop of Canterbury seeking to shut the door of the Church upon divorced persons wishing to re-marry, should find the House of Commons discussing with warm sympathy and deep understanding the fate of the illegitimate child. That debate on what was hideously called the Bastardy Bill found the Commons at their democratic best, just as the discussion in the Lords on Divorce Reform revealed the so-called Church of Christ at its bigoted worst. I always try to give those who fundamentally disagree with me the credit of good intentions, but I say unhesitatingly that the Church is flying in the face of Nature, and denying the very spirit of the Master, by its refusal to hold out the hand of gentleness and comfort to the mother and the child.

By seeking to deny marriage rites to a divorced person so long as the ex-spouse is alive, the lawn-sleeved Bishops are not only deliberately forcing the perpetuation of irregular unions; they are taking moral responsibility for adding to the sorry toll of illegitimate children. But, thank God, the laity takes a different view, and I never listened to a discussion in the House of Commons more informed with the true spirit of humanity than that in which there was put forward a unanimous plea for what is called the love child—yes, and often is the irregular outcome of true affection. No one wants to make irregular unions more numerous—except the Church and those who oppose prudent reform of our Divorce Laws. But we do want to remove from the foreheads of the innocent the Brand of Bastardy. And what is more, we are going to do it.

In the course of the Debate in the Commons, I quoted from a letter written by a well-known authoress—she having given me permission, for the sake of the little ones, to make the facts known in the Imperial Parliament. The Legislature, after 50 years of denial of justice to the love child, means to see that child righted before the world. Not only will it give sanction for the legitimising of children born of parents who, at the time of birth, could lawfully have married; it will, unless I am much mistaken, take away the bastardy bar from the little one born of parents who were unable to marry when the offspring came into the world, and who later take up the marriage tie. Let me quote:—

> I am married to a man who is the father of my three children, and whose legal wife refused to divorce him until it suited her convenience to do so. He was legally debarred from instituting proceedings himself, although his wife from the first days of his marriage had been unfaithful, and was eight times subsequently in lunatic asylums and inebriates' establishments. We are, however, now, as I say, legally united. My husband's only child of his first marriage fell in the war, and it seems hard that any stigma should rest upon our three little ones, to whom we are devoted.

Is there a decent woman or a right-thinking man of the world who would not, had she or he the power, place the balm of legitimacy upon the unoffending heads of those three little ones? I wonder how many of my readers know what it really means to be illegitimate. Such a child has no legal father; the only relative is the mother who bore the offspring. If she dies, the unhappy little creature is without a single relative in the world—a universal orphan, branded with a mark, worse almost than the mark of Cain. The father dies, and leaves his property to the children—the law says that the illegitimate one is not of his kith and kin, and cannot share in his wealth—although who knows that child might be the beloved of his heart? What is more, if an illegitimate son dies without making a will, his mother has no right to a share of his worldly goods, be his estate ever so prosperous. His mother might be starving—she who brought him into the world, and bore all the pain and distress of rearing the love-child—yet the State takes the whole of the property and leaves the unhappy creature to the tender mercies of the workhouse.

Once illegitimate, always illegitimate; from birth to the day of death the "love child" is a thing apart, a pariah, something unclean, unholy. Well, we are going to alter all that, not to give licence for vice, as some of the Christians would taunt us, but to give to the child liberty to live. Do you know that every year something like 4,500 babes die who might have survived if they had been born legitimate? In the eyes of God they are legitimate enough; if there is any illegitimacy, it is the parents'. But, being born under the ban of bastardy, the hand of the world—yes, and often the heart of the despairing mother—turns against them. Neglect, sometimes violence, and then death, is the unhappy fate of these unoffending offenders against our moral code.

Personally, I plead not only that parents when they marry shall thus automatically give to their love-children the sanction of lawful issue—but that a man whose affection turns to a decent woman who has "made a slip," should be empowered by declaration to make the "love-child" his own, giving it the security of his name, and the sanction of the law. Too long have we lagged behind other countries in our legitimacy laws. Let the era of reconstruction—of which we hear so much and see so little—be an era of emancipation for the love child, and so, linking up the centuries, hold out the hand of pity, as did the Galilean who forbade not the little children to come unto Him, "for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven."

DUMB AUCTION.

A CUSTOM THAT SHOULD BE CLOSELY WATCHED.

A fellow-countryman of the Prime Minister's, with a sense of humour, sends us a description of a quaint function he recently attended in a remote agricultural district of North Wales. It was a land sale. It might have appeared, however, that no bids were forthcoming, except that the auctioneer proceeded to "run up" the lots to quite handsome figures, being entirely undisturbed by the complete silence that enwrapped the proceedings. Curious to know the secret of this strange phenomenon, our friend questioned one of the farmers present, when he was informed that the whole of the bidding was carried out by means of signs previously arranged. Thus a bidder might stand on one leg, stork-like, scratch his ear, monkey-fashion, adjust his necktie, re-light his pipe, and so on through an infinite variety of silent gesture. "It was quite amusing," we are told, "to see those respectable farmers going through their performances as if they were all bereft of the power of speech." However, it is but fair that bidding should be open and above-board, and once the "nod and wink" method is admitted, all manner of abuses may creep in.

A GOVERNMENT BETRAYAL.

HINDERING THE REVIVAL OF BRITISH COMMERCE.

With the urgent need existing for the development of foreign markets, it is pitiful to think of the commercial talent we are wasting. Speaking seven languages, a man employed before the war as the representative of leading British houses in South America and the Far East, sacrificed considerable interests abroad to assist the Government at the outbreak of hostilities. When he was demobilised, the Ministry of Labour were so impressed with his qualifications that they waived the age limit and recommended him to the Overseas Trade Department for a special commercial appointment. His complaint, which demands serious notice, is that he was received by a Selection Board obviously unfitted for their task. This preposterous body, including an ex-Army "dug out" and a youth of 23 whose mind was in a state of virgin innocence upon all matters affecting trade and commerce, actually "turned down" the recommendation of the Ministry of Labour, and our friend is again in search of useful employment. A Government that entrusts its overseas trade organisation to bungling amateurs is grossly betraying the vital interests of the nation.

SHYLOCK'S BOND.

TABLES TURNED ON GRASPING MONEYLENDER.

When harassed by domestic illness, a Kennington reader saw the following advertisement:—

> DON'T BE WITHOUT MONEY.—£10 upwards lent privately to householders without security, fuss or delay. Low interest. Repayment to suit borrower's convenience.—B. Richards, 190, Stockwell Road, Brixton, S.W.

In a subsequent announcement, Mr. Richards went as far as to offer loans at "pre-war rates," and our friend made up his mind to borrow £7. For this he executed a promissory note for £10 10s., repayable at 5s. weekly, the "pre-war rate of interest" having evidently ranged in the neighbourhood of 50 per cent. However, the Kennington borrower was a trifle less verdant than he may have appeared at the first onset, and having repaid the £7 with interest in the neighbourhood of 15 per cent., he politely but firmly declined to pay more. In due course a summons was issued, but on the hearing at Lambeth, Judge Parry gave judgment for the defendant, remarking that the moneylender had done very well. The episode is a reminder of the provisions of the Moneylenders Act, by which such contracts may be set aside.

In Norman Times

William the Conqueror minted his own coins and payment for rental of lands was partly by coin and partly in produce, the Baron taking one-tenth of everything from his tenants or serfs.

The "Money" Series No. 3.

AT all times our national prosperity has recoiled but to advance the further!

We had warred against the Normans. In consequence our country had become disorganised—as it is to-day—but once the new order of things was established, England soon showed that she was a power to be reckoned with in Europe. We became richer than ever we were before the struggle.

So it has been ever since. The stiffer our tussle, the greater our step forward in wealth and freedom afterwards. So, we may hope, it will be this time.

Our real wealth as a nation and your wealth as an individual is increased by saving.

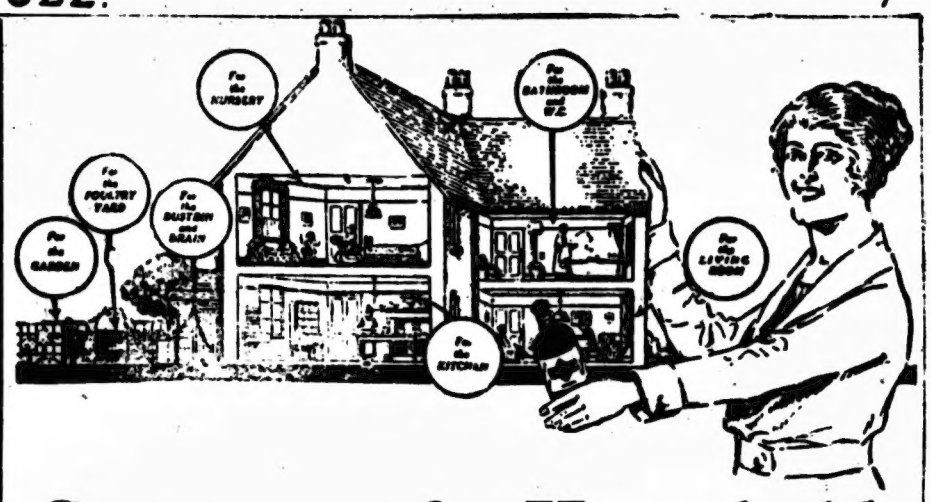
If you would be better off, then, it is not sufficient to ***earn*** more: you must ***save*** more.

Savings Certificates are sold, Savings Associations are organised solely to help you to do this. They offer you every encouragement to increase your savings and thus increase your wealth.

For your own benefit join an Association, or buy Savings Certificates ***regularly***, and watch each 15/6 grow into £1 in five years, or to £1:6:0 in ten years.

Savings CERTIFICATES

Obtainable through a Savings Association, or from any Bank, Money Order Post Office or Official Agent. Or you can buy them by instalments by asking at any Post Office for 6d. Savings Stamps and a card (free) on which to stick them.



Scores of Household uses in one Bottle

For the Kitchen. Wash or spray meats and fish with Milton. Milton adds days to their keeping qualities and removes taint and impurities. Use Milton for cleaning tiles, porcelain and enamelware—it removes stains and cleans without rubbing.

For the Bathroom. A teaspoonful of Milton to a tumbler of water makes a splendid mouth-wash—kills germs, preserves the teeth, strengthens the gums. Milton cleans and sterilises tooth and hair brushes without injuring the bristles. An excellent shampoo.

For the Nursery. At any hour of the day or night you may need something for the little ones—for cuts, insect bites, nettlerash, for warding off 'Flu, for cleansing diapers. Milton is always ready—always safe.

For the Garden. Milton moves plant pests and parasites at the double and also destroys their larræ—thus preventing the hatching of later generations.

For the Living Room. Sprayed about the room, Milton freshens the air like a breeze from the sea. Instantly removes smell of stale tobacco smoke. Tea, fruit, ink or wine stains on a white linen or cotton cloth can be removed by Milton in 30 seconds.

For the Dustbin and Drain Milton destroys smells in an instant and kills germs like a flash of lightning. Flies cannot breed in dustbins and drains which have been Miltonised.

For the Poultry Yard. No more vermin—no more roup and gapes—no more scaly legs—less cholera and diarrhœa—no bad smells—that is the Milton touch in the Poultry Yard, which brings greater profits to poultry keepers

Consider the economy and convenience of having in one bottle a fluid which effectively serves so many different purposes. And, this is important, Milton is perfectly safe and harmless—non-poisonous, non-inflammable, does not burn or stain the skin.

Milton serves a hundred and one uses and saves you buying a dozen different preparations. The hundred and one uses are fully described in booklet attached to each bottle. Look for this booklet when buying, make sure you get it.

MILTON

ANTISEPTIC.

Does 101 Things.

Your Dealer Sells It.

MILTON MANUFACTURING CO., LTD.,
125 Bunhill Row, LONDON, E.C.
64 Wellington Street, GLASGOW.
37 Piccadilly, MANCHESTER.
5 Cope Street . . DUBLIN.

In Cottage and in Mansion there is a welcome for the

Berkeley EASY CHAIR

The frame is of great strength, the springs are steel-coppered, long and flexible, and are fitted in the back, seat and front edge. The latter has an independent front making the seat very resilient and adding greatly to the life of the chair. The upholstery is thorough and the coverings are durable and artistic

There is a world of peaceful rest and enjoyment to be obtained from a Berkeley.

Price £5:15:0 or 17/6 with order and balance 18/6 monthly.

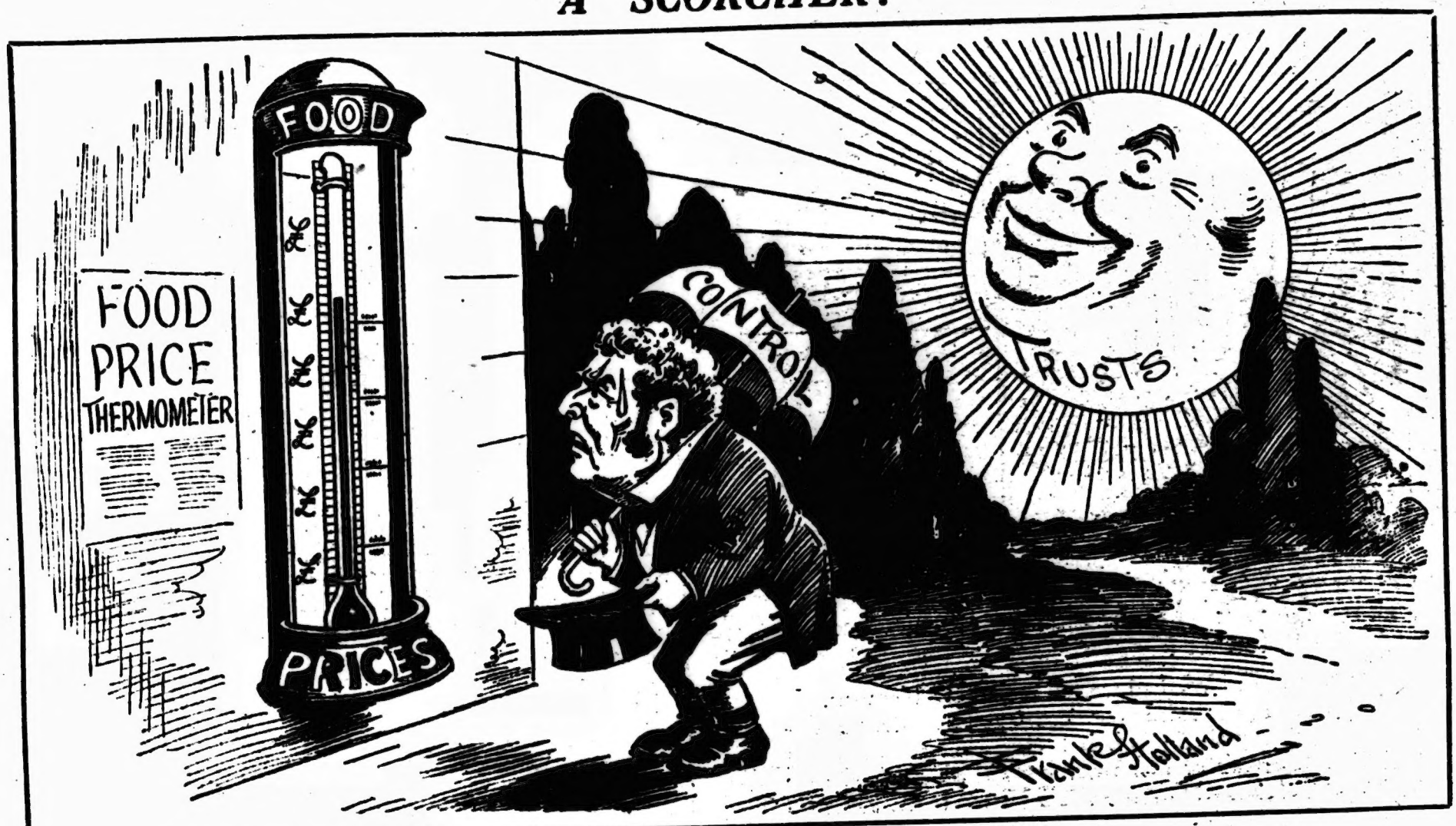
Sold on the Money-Back Principle.

Every Berkeley is delivered carriage paid soon after receipt of first payment with order, and if not completely satisfactory it may be returned AT OUR EXPENSE, and all money paid will be REFUNDED IN FULL.

If unable to call, write NOW for samples of coverings and full particulars, sent post free

H. J. SEARLE & SON, LTD.,
Manufacturing Upholsterers.
(Dept. J.B.) 70-78, OLD KENT RD., LONDON, S.E.1

A SCORCHER!



The temperature is getting very high,
And to shelter from the heat you vainly try;
But it's not at all surprising
That the mercury keeps rising,
When the sun's still shining in the sky.

A WARNING TO THE "DEMOBBED."

"REMUNERATIVE PASSAGE-PAID SITUATIONS"—IN THE CLOUDS!

More than six months ago we warned demobilised soldiers not to gamble their money on the shadowy prospects of employment held out by Mr. H. C. Coutts, trading as Messrs. Coutts and Co. As a rule the appointments they advertise are situated at a great distance from these shores—Ceylon, Nigeria, East Africa, are favoured localities—and no detailed information is to be obtained until the standing charge of £2 2s. and an "interview fee" of 3s. 6d. have been paid. Even then, all it comes to is that the applicant is furnished with the names and addresses of certain overseas firms, together with a number of more or less obviously multigraphed copies of a typewritten letter which, it is suggested, the trusting client should sign and post at his own expense to the business houses named.

These addresses seem to be culled at random from the directory, there being no assurance whatever that the firms have vacancies at their disposal. A demobilised officer of Woolwich dispatched 50 of these letters of application, receiving only two replies, neither of them satisfactory. Meanwhile the London secretary of one of these concerns informs us that he has been inundated with applications from clients of Messrs. Coutts, although they have long since been completely staffed, not a single vacancy remaining. Naturally this method of proxy is regarded by potential employers with disfavour—as they, of course, desire to judge the personal composition and hand- or type-writing of their would-be servants.

"WON'T YOU GO FOR NINEPENCE?"

THE "BUY YOUR KIT" SCANDAL IN A NEW AND PROTRACTED FORM.

At their own price, Rays, of Theobald's Road, W.C., will buy any old thing you can think of, from your grandmother's false teeth to cast off Army kits. Indeed they are specially strong on the latter, until it comes to forking out. Then Rays get shy, the business at this stage being handled by a Mr. M. Botibol, who is apparently the sole proprietor of the concern. "Regret to say," wrote Mr. Botibol recently to an ex-officer who had placed several items of his Army kit at the firm's disposal, "goods are practically useless. However, we enclose 5s., that being the utmost value for goods sent." However, a few days later Mr. Botibol writes to say that in view of the customer's evident dissatisfaction with his previous offer, "he has decided to remit a further 5s., being much over the value." We are getting on!

Still the customer is not satisfied, and after a further week's delay Botibol, with the air of a man stretching a point for friendship's sake, springs an additional 2s. 6d. But to do him justice, he had not yet finished. True, he was "very surprised" that 12s. 6d. was not considered a handsome price for the goods, but rather than have any dissatisfaction he would go to £1—this being, so to speak, the uttermost extension of the limit. The whole incident is strangely reminiscent of the protracted "deal" between David Copperfield and the old clo'man! "We trust," added Mr. Botibol, "we shall have the honour of doing further business." The customer's reply, however, is in the Pygmalion strain.

UNWANTED BABES.

NURSES HEAVILY FINED FOR SIMPLE ACT OF KINDNESS.

On paper it may have looked as though there was a serious complaint against Miss L. M. Barrett and Miss M. H. Hodgkinson, two ladies charged at Epsom with an offence under the Children Act. They were summoned for "failing to give notice in writing within 48 hours to the Local Authority of the death of a child of which they had undertaken for reward the nursing and maintenance; for failing to give notice of the reception of an infant, and for keeping infants in excess of the number fixed by the Authority." The defendants, both trained nurses, are the proprietors of a Maternity Home at Sutton, and last autumn a woman on the eve of confinement called upon Miss Barrett, and, having failed to obtain other accommodation, begged to be taken in. It was contrary to the rules of the Home for patients to be admitted without notice, but the Matron, taking pity upon the woman, gave her a room, subsequently attending her at the birth of twins.

Unfortunately, the children, being illegitimate, were retained in the nursing home longer than usual, pending satisfactory arrangements for their subsequent care. Weakly from birth, they lived only a few weeks. From first to last the kindly Matron never regarded the babies as "foster children" within the meaning of the Children Act. But as a result of their solicitude for the unmarried mother and her bairns, the nurses were heavily out-of-pocket, without the fine of £25 and costs which an unsympathetic Bench saw fit to impose.

JONES BROTHERS' Famous Offers of SURPLUS GOVERNMENT STORES and Ready-to-Wear Suits and Sports Jackets at Low Prices.

TAILORED TWEED LOUNGE SUITS 84/- and TWEED SPORTS JACKETS - 55/-

Each Suit at our low price, 84/-, is better in fit, style and quality of material than the average "made to measure" Suit at £6 10s., and each All Wool Sports Coat at 55/- is better than the average made to measure garment at 77/6.

These Suits and Sports Jackets are made of sound quality Tweeds, and are all perfect fitting, well-tailored garments of best make and finish—possessing that style and individuality hitherto only associated with the best class to-measure work. In fact, the only way to fully appreciate the great money-saving opportunity they provide is to see and judge the actual garments.

AVAILABLE IN 30 SIZES
SUITS from 34 to 44 in. Chest.
SPORTS JACKETS from 35 to 41 in. Chest
This means that you can rely upon obtaining Suits or Sports Jackets that exactly fit.

2,800 Tailored Tweed LOUNGE SUITS Actual Value, £6 10s. **84/-**

In LIGHT, MEDIUM, AND DARK GREYS; also DARK BROWN, London Tailored, newest West End style, D.B. Lapel, three-button front, no slit at back. Permanent turn-up Trousers. Each Coat has unerreasable fronts, Melton under-collar, hand-worked buttonholes, and hand-felled durable Italian cloth linings.

2,000 All-Wool Tweed SPORTS Jackets Actual Value, 77s. 6d. **55/-**

In ALL CORRECT SPORTS COLOURINGS including Greys, Heathers, Lovats, Fawns and Browns. Each coat is lined Sleeves and Shoulders, and has unerreasable fronts. These Coats are London Tailored high-grade garments, correct in every detail of style, and will give excellent wear.

GREY FLANNEL TROUSERS of good quality and perfectly tailored. Have permanent turn-ups, raised side seams, hip straps and loops for belt. **FULL SATISFACTION GUARANTEED OR MONEY REFUNDED.** Per Pair **24/6**

Customers can order these Suits and Sports Jackets with every confidence, because of our unqualified guarantee of full satisfaction or money refunded. Remember we can only offer the limited quantities above at these very attractive LOW PRICES, and to avoid all risk of disappointment Orders should be sent NOW as the offers are so attractive that Speedy Sale is certain.

PATTERNS SENT BY RETURN POST FREE.

25,000 FAWN DOUBLE TEXTURE WATERPROOF CAPES

AT LOW PRICE, representing less than HALF the ACTUAL VALUE.

16/9 EACH Post & Packing 9d.

These Capes are Imperishable and will give almost everlasting wear. Note their many uses, the low price and remember that when our stock is cleared we cannot obtain further supplies.

FOR LADIES.

Double Texture Waterproof Capes of finest quality material, with shoulder straps and arm loops. These Capes are ideal for Shopping, Cycling, Motoring, Driving, Fishing, Golfing, Picnics, and for General Wear in wet or showery weather.

FOR MEN.

Double Texture Waterproof Capes of finest quality material and with shoulder straps and arm loops. These are ideal garments for Cycling, Driving, Motoring, Shooting, Angling, Riding, and for General Wear for everyone engaged in an outdoor occupation.

Full Satisfaction —OR— Money Refunded.

Double Holed to Button Right or Left Side for Ladies' or Men's Wear.

Size	Length Back.	Front.
1	36ins.	39ins.
2	38ins.	41ins.
3	40ins.	43ins.

16/9 EACH. Post & Packing 9d.

The correct lengths for Cycling or Driving are :—
Size 1—for wearer Height 5ft. 3in. to 5ft. 6in.
Size 2—for wearer Height 5ft. 7in. to 5ft. 10in.
Size 3—for wearer Height 5ft. 11in. to 6ft. 2in.

ORDER EARLY.—It is the only way to avoid all risk of disappointment.

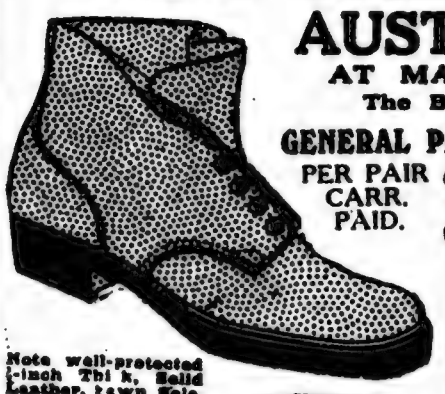
Please state clearly whether Size 1, 2 or 3 is required.

POST EARLY. ORDERS TAKEN IN ROTATION.

MEN'S SOLID BROWN LEATHER AUSTRALIAN BOOTS.

AT MARVELLOUSLY LOW PRICES.
The Best Boot Bargains in the Land.

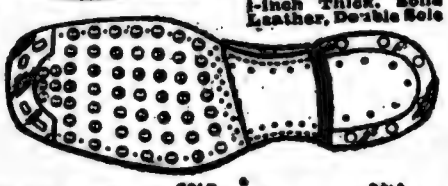
GENERAL PATT. 1537. PER PAIR CARR. PAID. **30/-**



Note well-protected ½-inch Thick, Solid Leather, Brown Sole.

HEAVY PATT. 1615. PER PAIR CARR. PAID. **35/-**

Note well protected ½-inch Thick, Solid Leather, Double Sole



AUSTRALIAN BOOTS ARE IDEAL FOR

Golfers, Anglers, Farmers, Millers, Gardeners, Builders, Mechanics, Chauffeurs, Transport Workers, etc., who should secure this great money-saving opportunity NOW while there is yet time.

AUSTRALIAN SIZES	4	5	6 SOLD	7	8 SOLD	9	10 ALL SOLD	11	12
EQUAL TO ENGLISH SIZES	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

Each Size in Three Fittings—Small, Medium and Wide.

AUSTRALIAN SIZES	6 SOLD	7	8	9	10	11 SOLD	12
EQUAL TO ENGLISH SIZES	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

Each Size in Two Fittings—Medium and Wide.

Be sure to state Australian size and enclose Full Remittance with order. Please mark Envelope A.B. in top left hand corner.

To customers who will order for their friends we are prepared to make a rebate of 1s. per pair off the 30s. Boots, and 1s. 6d. per pair off the 35s. Boots. These orders must NOT BE LESS THAN TWELVE PAIRS, sent in ONE CONSIGNMENT to ONE ADDRESS ONLY, and must be accompanied by FULL REMITTANCE. We will pay all carriage charges.

Make all Cheques and Postal Orders payable to Jones Bros. (Holloway), Ltd., and cross "& Co." Treasury Notes must in all cases be Registered. Should a little delay occur in the execution of your order you can, by following the above instructions, rest assured that your order has reached us safely. In the rare cases where it is necessary to return the boots for exchange, please enclose full particulars in parcel with the boots.

TRADE NOTE.—To bona fide Boot Retailers we quote special terms for quantity orders. Write "WHOLESALE DEPARTMENT."

SOFT LEATHER JERKINS.

As issued to the B.E.F. Made from best quality dark leather, without sleeves, and to be worn over jacket; as soft and pliable as a kid glove. Lined throughout Tweed. Indispensable for motorists, transport workers, etc. **In these sizes only: Size 2, to fit 37 in. to 41 in. chest; Size 3 to fit 42in. to 45 in. chest.** Actual value, 30/-

Clearance Price 18/6

MEN'S MOTOR LEGGINGS.

Black or Brown Leather. Special Purchase. Whole Blocked and Seamless. Spring and Strap Fastening (as illustration). Light weight and well finished. Calf measurements 13½, 14, 14½, 15, 15½, 16, 16½, 17 ins. Height 12½ in. Postage 6d. Special Price, per pair **14/6**

AUSTRALIAN LEGGINGS.

A limited quantity Australian Strap Leggings of Brown Leather. Sizes, 15, 16½ and 17 in. only. CLEARANCE PRICE Per pair **14/6**

ORDERS BY POST

Kindly make payable Cheques and Postal Orders to Jones Bros. (Holloway), Ltd., and cross /& Co./ Treasury Notes should in all cases be registered. Stamps over Sixpence cannot be accepted.

JONES BROTHERS (Holloway), Ltd., Holloway Road, LONDON, N.7.

The SUNDAY EVENING TELEGRAM—the only Sunday evening paper.

THE PEOPLE'S PULPIT.

The readers of "JOHN BULL" discuss matters of Public Interest.

In giving publicity on this page to views of correspondents, preference will be accorded to brief letters bearing name and address for publication.

All envelopes and letters must be marked "P.P." in left-hand corner.

Letters for this page must relate to public, as distinguished from personal, topics.

For short acknowledgments of communications and replies to other letters—selected from our general mail—see "Letter Bag," page 22.

Boycott for Profiteers.

If the various Trades Unions, instead of striking for more wages, etc., organised themselves to boycott certain articles of food, clothing and household commodities, getting the members to pledge themselves not to purchase more than is absolutely necessary for a few weeks, the Food Trusts and other "rings" would soon be broken and prices would come down.—ARNOLD LORD, Dunsterville Terrace, Rochdale.

"Live Bait" Torture.

Do people realise the torture which is inflicted upon small fish caught for bait? When the barbed hook has been ripped out, they are placed, often minus half the mouth, in a small vessel, and eventually fastened by the back to another hook and placed at the mercy of large fish. Fishing with live bait constitutes one of the most revolting forms of torture, and certainly ought to be made an offence punishable by law, just as cruelty to animals is.—B. BARKER, Melbourne Terrace, Oldham, Lancs.

The Motherland's Sharks.

Manchester Guardian, 24th April.—Clerks Wanted for Government Office, disabled or demobilised men preferred; commencing wages, 17-18, 27s.; 18-19, 33s.; 19-20, 37s.; 20-21, 41s., 21-24, 46s.; 24 and over, 51s.; nge, etc., R.123.

Mon Dieu! Are clerks missed off the list of "heroes" of this "country fit for heroes to live in"? Surely we have the right to live after our torture of Hell in Flanders! You agree? Well, how the devil can we support our widowed mothers and fatherless brothers on a pittance of forty-one bob a week?—G. ATACK, Porter Street, Bury.

Cure for Labour Unrest.

I wonder if the Seamen's Federation is now agreeable to permit its members to carry the "Stockholm Doves" to their much desired destination? I voted against this mission during the War, but I am now of the opinion that the agitators should take a *good long rest*—in foreign climes! As a Trade Union man, I suggest a levy being enforced so as to grant them the holiday—on condition that they must not return to this country for 20 years. This would certainly give us poor working men peace at home and allow us to compete against their spiritual puls for the trade of the world.—S. WILKINSON, Kensington Terrace, Swansea.

Income Tax Rebate.

From the Budget it would appear that any gain obtained on realisation of investments is to be taxed on an Income Tax basis. If this is so, any loss on realisation should be allowed as a deduction from income before taxation. Many thrifty, patriotic Britons have suffered great loss on realising, *out of absolute necessity*, War Stocks which have depreciated very considerably, on account of the Government's injudicious policy of fresh borrowing to meet current liabilities. A loss set off against income, and consequently rebate of Income Tax, is only equitable under such circumstances.—CHAS. B. WHITE, Montague Street, Edinburgh.

Five Guineas is paid to the writer of the most interesting letter. That amount has been sent to Mr. A. G. Welsford.

A Labour Gazette.

With a view to enabling the out of work to secure suitable employment, why should not the Government publish a weekly *Labour Gazette* in which employers could advertise vacancies free of cost? A moderate charge for this publication would cover all expenses, and a good number of Labour Exchanges could be closed.—A. EVANS, Stapleford, Notts.

Licensing Courts.

Are our Licensing Laws just? If a holder of a licence should be elected to the Magisterial bench, he is disqualified, from the fact that he *is* a licence-holder, from sitting on the Licensing Court. If a member of a Temperance organisation should be so honoured, no such ban prohibits him from occupying a seat on the Court, despite the fact that he may, and he usually does, give a pledge that no new licences will be created, and that he will do his best to reduce existing ones. This anomaly should be removed.—T. RICHARDS, St. Leonard's Terrace, Edinburgh.

Socialists and "Labour Party."

That the Socialists in this country are called the "Labour Party" by the Press and by themselves gives them a great and unfair advantage in elections. The average working man is intensely individualistic, is not sympathetic towards socialistic ideals, and would not ordinarily vote for Socialist candidates or support Socialist organisations *if they were so described*. When, however, they come before him as "Labour" candidates or "Labour" organisations, he often feels in duty-bound to vote for the one and to support the other, from a sentiment of solidarity with his class.—A. G. WELSFORD, Hemingfold, Battle.

Massage Establishments.

Licences to run massage establishments should be granted only to the medical profession and nurses holding a nursing certificate. A profession which has high recognition throughout England would then be proud of and uphold its dignity and rectitude.—MAUD SLIM, Bearwood Road, Bearwood, Birmingham.

The Premier's Promises.

Every sensible-minded man and woman in England is "fed right up" with the tactics of Lloyd George and his Government towards the despicable Hun. Perhaps if we had a "Ypres" in London or New York things would be different! Is there no way in which we can make our "representatives" keep their pledges? We must all remember these things at the next General Election, and *not* be led away again with promises which, after election is secured, are conveniently forgotten.—WESLEY F. PALMER, Cartwright Gardens, London.

Publicans' Dirty Glasses.

One sees scores of drinking vessels washed in public-houses in a small receptacle, or not washed at all but used over and over again, and simply put to drain. The War Office and Admiralty have issued orders that all drinking vessels immediately after use shall be washed in hot water, and where possible dipped in boiling water, as such measures will destroy bacteria conveyed by the mouth—considerably lessening the danger of infection from diphtheria, influenza and other diseases.—JAMES ALLAN, High Road, S.W.16.

"Workmen's" Fares.

Isn't it about time we had "Clerks' Fares"? Before the war the average clerk was very often, considering all things, in no better position regarding wages than the "working" man, but now he is considerably worse off. I have yet to hear of any firm which has doubled the wages of its clerks, while the average "working man" gets about 100 to 150 per cent. more. The dustman on his £4 a week pays less fare than the clerk on his £3. What has "Labour" to say to this?—WILLIAM PEARSON, Courthope Road, N.W.3.

"Pictorial Pottage."

Public taste being as varied as human nature, why the universal-pattern cinema programme? The cinema-goer must take or leave the same kind of dish everywhere. Many not often seen in present cinemas would welcome recreative education in a film programme mainly of art, science, industry, inventions and travel. Another section would gladly go regularly to where they could be sure of an hour or so of current news pictures and not elusive spasms. The public wants a real cinema menu to select from, according to appetite and taste.—B. WOODMAN, Whitehorse Road, Croydon.

Ex-Soldiers in Ireland.

Although you have called attention to the matter, I don't think the authorities have any idea how we Irish ex-Service men are being treated. We come back here to live with rebels who treat us like dirt. Employers who are loyal are afraid to give us a job. Let the Government open industries of some kind in this unlucky country, look after her ex-Service men, and then when the war drums beat again Paddy will not be found wanting.—"PADDY," Co. Wexford.

[*For our correspondent's own sake, we suppress his name and fuller address.*—Editor.]

Miners' Safety Lamps.

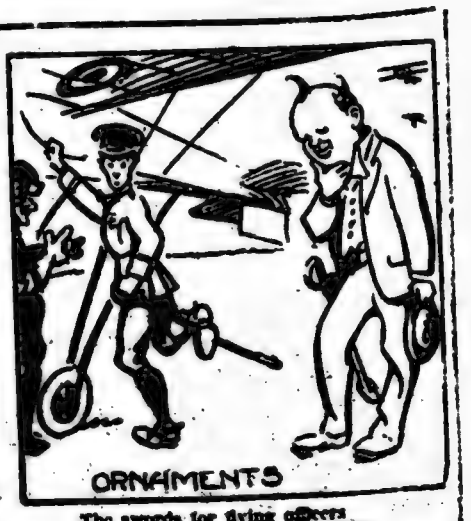
The slightest jerk, or a small knock on the bottom of a miner's safety lamp, extinguishes the light. The lamps are locked, and no one but a mine authority is allowed to relight them, and then only at a proper lighting station, which may be half a mile away. This means loss of time. My idea is to apply the flint and steel principle. As soon as a lamp is "out," a pull on a spring needle strikes a flint *inside* the lamp, near the wick; the result is a spark, and the oily wick is ignited again. This saves time, and is safer. In the darkness a "fall" may happen any time.—WALTER WHITELAW, Maitland Terrace, Newbiggin.

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

Sir Alfred's penchant for hotels.
Instead of lessening, rather swells!

Once more the willow meets the leather,
Although 'tis hardly cricket weather.

The Scapa sinkings were mere junk,
Compared with what Lloyd George has sunk.



The swords for flying officers
Mitchell's high admiration stirs.

Men's LIGHT-WEIGHT for SUMMER WEAR
Thin and practically invisible - - per set 4/6

SOLES & HEELS
Men's Stout, 5/6
„ Light, 4/6
Ladies' - 3/-
per set.

The Ladies' sizes are suitable for Boys and Girls.

HEELS ONLY
Men's Stout, 2/-
„ Light, 1/6
Ladies' - 1/-
per pair.

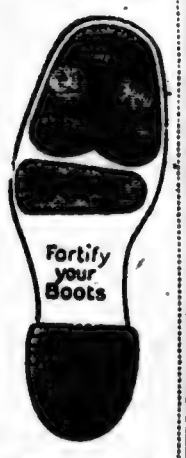
FROM ALL BOOTMAKERS.

Slight extra for fixing.

AN ENORMOUS ECONOMY. WILL SAVE YOU POUNDS IN A YEAR.

Phillips' 'Military'

SOLES AND HEELS make one pair of boots last the time of three



¶ They make walking much easier and keep feet dry in wet weather. Excellent for general wear. Never Slip.

Phillips' Patents, Ltd. Old St., London, E.C.

The Light for the Car

Mazda Bulbs are the recognised standard for car lighting—there are more Mazda in use than any other make. The first durable bulb for car use; durable because of the immensely strong drawn wire filament.

From all Dealers.

Made in Rugby

MAZDA

Drawn Wire

ELECTRIC BULBS

The BRITISH THOMSON-HOUSTON Co., Ltd., Mazda House, 77, Upper Thames Street, LONDON, E.C.4.

PROFITEERING!

DO you belong to that multitude who have to do something for a living? Are you one of those to whom profiteering has become a nightmare? When you dip deeper into your pockets, are you always satisfied you are spending your money to the best advantage? If not, you're encouraging the profiteer and doing yourself an injustice, for to-day every shilling is a consideration.

If you want boots, try this one. Let BARRATT'S show you how to defeat the profiteer. The basis of their business is supplying "Direct from the Factory to You," by which all intermediate profits are avoided. One modest profit is the only profit, and mass production on a large scale brings the cost of manufacture to a minimum. You benefit.

If you've never bought "Footshapes," give us the opportunity of convincing you of their merit. You run no risk. Send remittance of **30/-**, and a sample pair will come by return. If you are not satisfied that they are the finest value in England, send them back and every penny you have paid will be refunded.

Style 3097.
PRICE **30/-** POST FREE

DESCRIPTION: Prime Box Calf, full Chrome tanned; very pliable; tough medium-weight soles; comfortable shape; Welted (Hand Sewn principle) for flexibility and inside smoothness; solidly built and very durable. Suitable for town or light country wear. Every pair carries a signed guarantee of quality & construction.

SIZES: 5, 5½, 6, 6½, 7, 7½, 8, 8½, 9, 9½, 10, 10½, 11, 11½, 12. If size not known, send pencilled outline of stockinged foot, and we will supply a perfect fit.

Send **3d.** *postage for our large Illustrated Art Catalogue of Ladies', Gents', and Children's "Footshape" Footwear.*

All post orders must be sent direct to our works at Northampton.

DEPOTS:
36, OXFORD STREET, W.
21 & 22, CHEAPSIDE, E.C.
57, FENCHURCH ST., E.C.
166, STRAND, W.C.
283, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
12, TOTTENHAM Ct. Rd., W.
18, DARLEY St., BRADFORD

W. BARRATT & Co., Ltd. (Dpt. J.B.), "Footshape" Boot Works, NORTHAMPTON.

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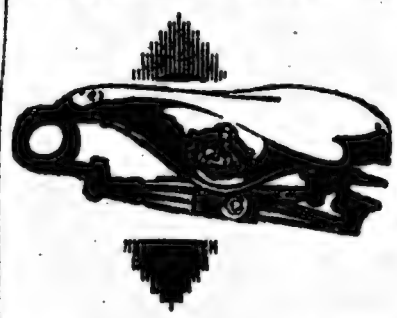

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GERMANY'S HIDDEN ARMY.

IT is to be hoped that, even at this late stage, the Allies will insist upon the substantial fulfilment of the Treaty of Versailles—miserably inadequate as its provisions are. But I am not sanguine. Mr. Lloyd George has fallen considerably from his high estate as the chief spokesman of British patriotism, and I am afraid that history will heavily discount his war services in the light of the shifts and compromises that have disfigured his later record. One thing, however, is certain. The nation is sick and tired of the way in which the Hun has been allowed to sneak out of his sworn engagements and to insult the authority of the Supreme Council. Nor can we be blind to the manifest dangers of the position. Thanks to the laxity of her conquerors, Germany to-day remains the possessor of large and serviceable military forces, while she snaps her fingers at the Big Three and systematically evades her swollen debt.

The French *Flair*.

Just see the position. Those who proclaim that the military might of the enemy is broken beyond repair may learn something from the figures recently supplied to the French Ministry of War by the Inter-Allied Commission of Military Control in Berlin. They show that Germany has to-day an effective fighting force of well over half a million—apart from nearly a million and a quarter civic guards, as they are called, but who are really army reservists. In case the figures do not in themselves sufficiently disclose the position in all its appalling seriousness, let me give a few comparisons. The total strength of the French Army at the moment is only about 700,000. The United States Army, as lately reconstituted, amounts to 316,800 men. And what about Great Britain? The amazing fact revealed on a comparison of official figures, is that while we have failed to enforce entirely the Reparation clauses of the Peace Treaty—Indemnities we no longer talk about—we have allowed our military strength, reckoned in effectives, to fall below that of Germany—the total personnel of the British Army, exclusive of troops stationed in India, amounting to the comparatively modest figure of 525,000 men. The peril of such a position must surely be patent to the meanest intelligence. The plain and ugly truth is that we have thrown away our margin of military superiority without exacting from Germany those vital guarantees which alone can secure the future peace of Europe. It is an appalling situation, which at all costs must be terminated at Spa. Otherwise, who shall say what may happen? Let no one tell me that Germany has been weaned from her faith in the sword. On the contrary, I find abundant evidence of her unchanged perfidy and wanton disrespect for the common obligation of civilised States. Under one disguise or another, the German Government is keeping its army in being, and will use every means of tricking the Allies into weak acquiescence in this state of things. As I have said before, I regard the Spa Conference as a profound blunder. San Remo was bad enough in all conscience. As I told the Prime Minister, his policy on these occasions seems always to be to give way to the truculence and trickery of the Hun.

The "Will of the People."

The policy of the Allies should involve a twin demand upon Germany—Reparation and Disarmament! On both heads the Treaty contains clear and explicit provisions; on both heads the declared will of the Allies has been insolently flouted by those in authority at Berlin. Still I say deliberately that unless the whole influence of the British Prime Minister is exerted to secure from Germany the fullest compliance with the Treaty demands, he will stand convicted of something very like dishonesty in his dealings with the British people—who, when all is said, have honoured him with their confidence in an almost unparalleled degree. The issues at stake involve nothing less than the peace of Europe for generations, and the immunity of our children from the desolating horrors of war. With such a military force as she stands possessed of to-day—no matter upon what pretext or in what guise it is retained—Germany is, and must remain, a menace to her neighbours—a truth only too painfully realised among the French people, who are fast coming to regard Mr. Lloyd George as a trifler in matters of high policy. The British people, for their part, demand from the Prime Minister implicit fidelity to our French Allies and a stern insistence upon the salient clause of the Peace Treaty, under which they have been promised full reparation for all injury. If our Prime Minister thinks he can evade these obligations with impunity, he could make no more profound mistake.

Another Word wit

By THE EDITO

I MUST have another word with the Honourable Member for Plymouth; not with any idea of "rubbing in" what I had to say last week—for, as I then stated, it is not a pleasant task to say unkind things at any time about a woman—but for the purpose of clearing up one or two little points which have arisen out of the incident. The ordinary citizen reading the newspapers would think that I had done a most unpopular thing, and that I had been outlawed in the House of Commons. It is true that when her Ladyship entered the Chamber on the day of the publication of our last issue, she was greeted with some amount of cheering. The House of Commons is a very human institution, and it was not surprising that a number of Members—many of whom subsequently told me that they had not at the time read the article—should, in their ignorance, have given expression to their generous instincts. All honour to them for it. But truth compels me to say that out of the two hundred and fifty who were present in the House, at least two hundred remained silent, and that in the lobbies, smoking-room and elsewhere, the opinion generally expressed was that my article was, in all the circumstances, fully justified. And I can say with sincerity that any pain caused to Lady Astor and her friends by its publication was not less than that felt by me in writing it. Reading it again, I regret that I do not see my way to withdraw or modify a single word which it contains—it was done after much thought and considerable deliberation—and, as I explained last week, not without consultation with several of the oldest Members of the House. There I leave it.

A Prejudiced Press.

But whilst I do not complain that the gentlemen in the Press Gallery gave prominence to the little demonstration I have mentioned, I protest against some allowing their pens to run away with them. Take that "booing" incident, which was so insignificant in its character that the *Daily Mail* and many other leading journals did not mention it. Even the *Star* simply says: "At a later stage when Mr. Bottomley rose to ask a Question there was some booing"; whilst the *Times*, having referred to the "cheers from the Liberal and Labour benches," to which it apparently limits them, says that when I rose I was "received with sounds of disapproval from the same quarter." And the *Telegraph* speaks of "some booing." But listen to this, from so reputable a journal as the *Morning Post*: Ten minutes later, on rising to put a question, I was "greeted with loud booing *from many quarters of the House*." As a matter of fact, all that happened was that a couple of Labour Members sitting by Lady Astor gave vent to a subdued groan, which did not even reach my own ears, and had the fact not been mentioned to me after I sat down I should have remained in blissful ignorance of it. I can only say that my good friends in the Press Gallery must have wonderful ears!

Lady Astor and Prohibition.

And I want also to clear up that little matter of Lady Astor's attitude towards the question of Prohibition. Shortly after going to press last week I received a letter from her Political Secretary stating that I had detached her Ladyship's words from their context, and denying that there was any inconsistency between the views expressed by her outside the House, and what she said during the debate on Local Option. I have, therefore, referred again to the reports, and my readers must judge for themselves whether I have been guilty of any injustice. First of all, I quote from a speech delivered at Liverpool on the 24th of January—and, context or no context, this is what I find her Ladyship saying: "I hate the word 'Prohibition' and I have just enough of the devil in me that if anyone prohibits anything it becomes the one thing I want." This is a definite, unqualified confession of temperament which cannot be affected by any other portion of the speech. And now let us see what

d with Lady Astor.

THE EDITOR.

the honourable Member told the House of Commons on February 24th—just a month after her Liverpool speech—during the debate on the Liquor Question. "I will admit that the country is not ripe for and does not want Prohibition . . . I am not pressing for Prohibition. I am far too intelligent for that." I suppose those are the words upon which the noble lady relies when denying inconsistency. I willingly give her the benefit of them. But what about something she said a little later on in the same speech? "I hope very much from the bottom of my heart that some time the people of England will come to Prohibition. I myself believe it will come. I say so frankly . . . . I hope the time will come when the working men will go dry. But we are not yet ready." Who the "we" are, I do not know. I suppose the word stands for the Temperance fanatics—who apparently mean to force Prohibition upon the working classes when Mr. Pussyfoot Johnson has finished his campaign. If ever that day comes, let me assure her Ladyship that the working men of this country also have "enough of the devil in them" to resent such social tyranny, and that, with the example of America before their eyes, they will give short shrift to any Members of Parliament who attempt to foist it upon them.

To Sum Up.

Now let me, before taking what I hope may be final leave of *l'affaire Astor*, as they say in France, sum up the position. Against Lady Astor personally I have not, nor could I have, any kind of feeling. I hailed her advent to Parliament and I have the highest possible opinion of her abilities. My complaint, however, is that she has so quickly assimilated the political atmosphere and has been so spoilt by flattery in the rôle of Social Reformer, that in regard to at least one problem—that of the inhumanity of our present laws of Marriage and Divorce—she could not possibly have been speaking with sincerity when violently condemning the system prevailing in some of the American States and of which she herself had taken advantage. What I feel, and I know the women of England feel, is that it is unfair for a "sister" who gained relief under the freer laws of America to use her position in the British Parliament to deny to them a like charter of freedom. We have a right to expect consistency, even in one of the so-called "weaker sex." In the same way, as regards the Drink Traffic; I cannot help feeling that, when angling for votes, she trimmed very much in order to placate the Trade, or else that when speaking on the subject in the House she was once more, to use a somewhat vulgar colloquialism, pulling its leg.

Same Facilities for British Women.

I assure her that this view is entertained by a large number of her fellow-Members—one of whom came to me and said that his vote on the Divorce resolution had been decided by her speech, and that he would never have given it had he known the facts I have disclosed. And what of the general public? Two letters, and only two—and one of them anonymous—of protest against my article have been received by me. In one of these communications I am reminded that "God remembers not our offences" and am abjured "in the triumphant exercise of that belief to emulate that divine attribute." Anyone reading that letter would imagine that I had on ethical grounds attacked Lady Astor for having made use of the laws of Virginia in order to rid herself of an undesirable husband. As a matter of fact, I expressly congratulated her—and I want to be in a position to congratulate thousands of men and of women, too, in England to-day, to whom similar facilities for sundering unhappy unions are denied. Perhaps I may yet obtain the co-operation, in my efforts to secure this end, of the lady whose contortions on so grave a subject it has been my painful duty to expose. In the political world, such quick changes *do* take place—and you never can tell!

HOME JOB FOR LLOYD GEORGE.

BREAD and butter questions play a large part in the politics of the average man and woman—and small blame to them in these days when, in spite of wage advances, the standard of living is steadily depressed. To my mind, the situation is serious, and I am far from satisfied that the Government are grappling with it in anything like a practical way. Not that I for a moment minimise the difficulties of the position. I am well aware, of course, that there is a world-shortage of many commodities, and that to a great extent all-round dearness is inevitable; at the same time, I look in vain for any recognition by the Government of the clamant urgency of the problem or of any drastic determination to deal effectively with the profiteering which to my certain knowledge is rampant in many directions. And now, forsooth, we are told by the Food Controller that, after months and years of supine inaction in the face of this swelling scandal," traders are to be invited to co-operate with the Government for the purpose of checking profiteering." Then, of course, prices will come down with a run! Simple Mr. McCurdy!

Supine Officialdom.

That the anger of Labour has been sharply aroused by the failure of the Ministry to grapple with the situation is beyond question, and I was particularly impressed by the speech of Mr. Clynes in the course of the debate in the House of Commons last week. He seldom fails to make good his criticisms of Coalition policy. What this level-headed Labour leader was trying to impress upon the Government was that just as hunger has ever been a prime element of revolution, so dearness and scarcity of food are the prolific breeders of unrest and disaffection among the working masses. I doubt very much if this truth has been sufficiently realised by the Food Ministry, who even now seems to have no very definite policy for reducing the cost of living. And if the plain truth must be told, it is that I expect very little practical help from this quarter, with its vast horde of officials battening upon our straitened Exchequer. With every desire to be courteous to the present holder of the office, I cannot for the life of me see any reason to fling bouquets at his Department; and I am strongly of opinion that if the public knew its whole history, as it is known in inner circles, they would demand the impeachment of its principal officers on the ground of criminal incompetence. Let me recall a single fact, which if necessary can be fully vouched. In the years 1918-19, when we were all going without potatoes and ruining our digestions with various unpalatable substitutes, the Food Ministry were hoarding supplies on an unprecedented scale; and so poorly was the whole thing managed, that ultimately vast quantities went bad—£1,500,000 worth being allowed to rot. And all the world knows about the jam, bacon and other scandals—to say nothing of the immense quantities still in store at Liverpool. But, of course, no one has been hanged.

Control and Camouflage.

My own opinion is that this much-vaunted system of "control," of which we are promised an indefinite continuance, is a gigantic piece of camouflage. I share the suspicions of Labour, and am quite unmoved by the facile disclaimers of the Food Ministry and its easy-going apologists. To my inind, it is not so much a question of control or non-control—as regards foodstuffs the Food Ministry has notoriously been among the profiteers—but of the adoption of a more vigorous anti-profiteering policy, aimed not simply at the retail shop-keepers, but at those who, by controlling the sources of supply, can regulate the general level of prices. At the same time, an earnest effort should be made to increase the home production of foodstuffs—a disquieting factor of the situation being the rate at which land sown with corn during the war is already falling out of cultivation. It would be an excellent thing if the Prime Minister would devote a little of his superabundant energy to the consideration of these vital problems, and spend a little less of his valuable time in abortive conferences with Continental statesmen on matters that ought long ago to have passed beyond the pale of controversy. My eyes decline to weep over the fate of starving Germans, but I am seriously perturbed by the knowledge that at present prices thousands of our own men, women and children are getting too little to eat. Nor do I believe that British statesmanship has exhausted the possibilities of relief. And perhaps, now that the Spa Conference is likely to be postponed, Mr. Lloyd George will give his personal attention for a moment to this domestic problem.

POLITICAL PATTERERS.

LADY ASTOR.

I'm the first British woman M.P.,
A fact
Of great satisfaction to me!
I'm backed
By all who are moral, religious, and nice—
I've a wonderful talent for giving advice!

And that's a fact, dears! You've no idea what a delicious thrill it gives one to look around and realise that one is the only gurl amongst three or four hundred male things! Ooo-er! And then there's the dear Speaker. Such a s'nice man. And then the dear Labour fellows, poor things. Great, uncouth chaps, you know, some of them, but *so* respectful. I wish I could say the same of some of the others. There's Joynson Hicks, for example. Why on earth he was ever knighted I can't understand. Just because I took a fancy to his seat in the House the other day, he turned up quite crusty! And the bear wouldn't give way, either. I gave him *such* a look, I can tell you! Oh, yes, I can when I like, believe me. I looked at him just like that . . . (*Drum*). But do you think he minded? Not a bit! Then there's Bottomley. We sit quite near one another, you know. How ever he got into Parliament beats me. He *will* insist on dragging out the truth! So absurd in a politician, isn't it? And then he expects everybody to be consistent—even *me*, a woman! S'ridiculous. Because I spoke against Prohibition before I got into Parliament, he objects to my advocating a "dry" England now that I'm in the House! As if I hadn't a right to change my mind when it suits my purpose! And—now he's found out that I'm not a widow, but that the husband I divorced is still alive and living in New York—he's making a stupid fuss about it. It's practically the same, isn't it? You're as good as a widow, if not better, when you've divorced your husband, aren't you? Of course, strictly speaking, I ought not to be described as a widow in books of reference like "Who's Who." But I'm not responsible for what they print in their silly old books, am I? Of course, they submitted the proofs to me beforehand, but it wasn't up to me to correct them. It would have looked as if I was trying to teach them their business. Thank goodness, I'm not so rude. But what seems to have upset Bottomley was the fact that I spoke against the Divorce Reform Bill he is supporting, although I obtained a divorce myself some years ago. Well, it wasn't up to me to tell the House that my first husband deserted me, was it? I've always set my face against washing dirty linen in public. But Bottomley seems to think I was inconsistent in opposing that of which I myself once took advantage. But it doesn't follow. Perhaps I'm sorry I *did* divorce Mr. Shaw, and want to save other women from making a similar mistake. Anyhow, whether Bottomley likes it or not—

I'm the first British woman M.P.,
A fact
Of great satisfaction to me!
I'm backed
By all who are moral, religious, and nice,
For I've a great talent for giving advice!

I'm the first British woman M.P.,
Though Fates
Arranged that my birthplace should be
The States:
At the next Election I'm standing again,
For it's fine to be mixed with so many nice
men!

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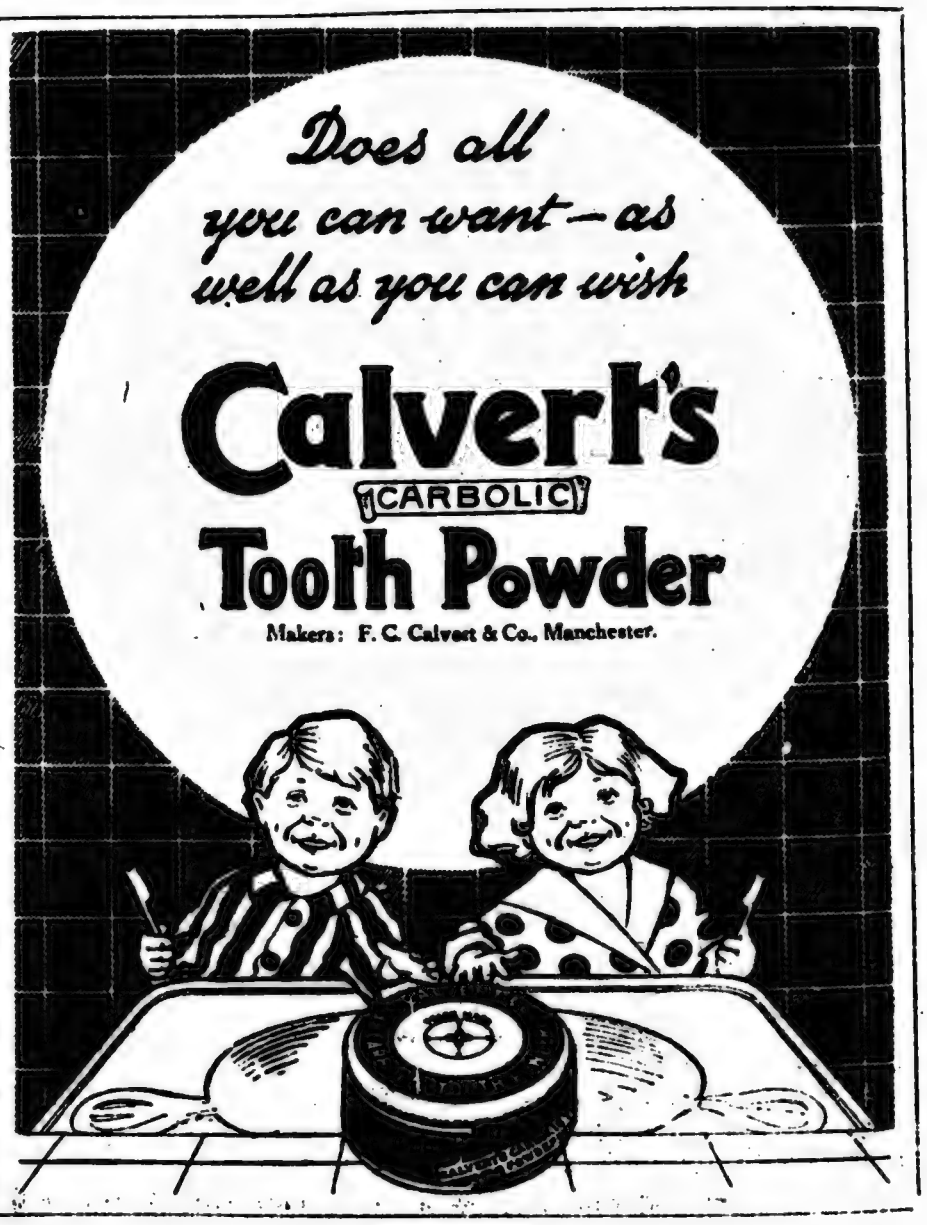

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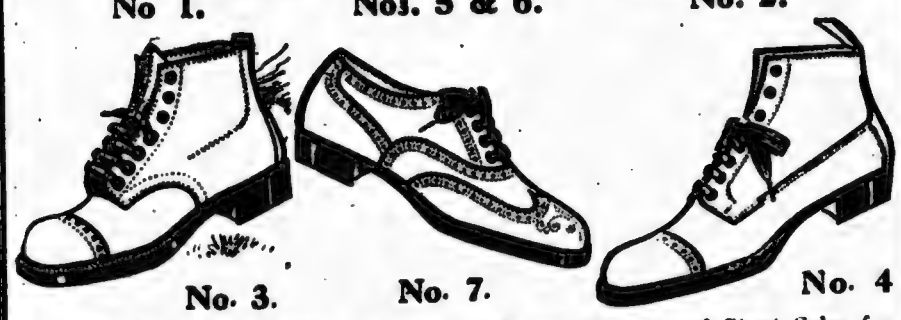

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ALL ONE PRICE - - **20/-**

We are open daily from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., to enable you to come, fit them on, and take them with you. NO WAITING.

***IF UNABLE** to call post 20/- and 1/- for postage and packing, stating number and size. You will get the same attention, and your order will be executed without delay.*

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JOHN BULL AT PLAY.

RACING, FOOTBALL, BOXING AND OTHER SPORTING NOTES.

RACING.

Look where you will, it is impossible to find a trainer with better trial tackle for the Derby than P. Gilpin. With horses of all grades and class at his command, it is difficult to see how he is to make a mistake. The Clarehaven establishment bids fair to have as good a season this year as Lord Glanely had in 1919. The two-year-olds of the stable are not being hurried, but about Ascot time we shall see the most forward battling for the best endowed stakes, and then Allen Brek and Pretty Polly's daughter may be heard of. Powerful a stable as he has, Gilpin must now be regretting that classic engagements were not made for Comrade and Fair Simone. The former is as game as he is brilliant, while it is quite within the range of possibility that Fair Simone is the best filly of her year. This brace of very useful three-year-olds is owned by the French sportsman, M. St. Alary, whose colours were kept before the English public for a year or two when carried by that second-rate stayer, The Khedive III.

Paragon is another colt, trained by Gilpin, that is not in the Derby—not that he is quite up to that standard, being a little wanting in size and length of stride ever to be quite a top-sawyer. Paragon, however, will be able to tell Gilpin the "time of day" if stripped later with the best of Captain Giles Loder's trio, Svengali, Spion Kop and Golden Guinea, and this after he has had his second cut at Allenby in this week's Newmarket Stakes. Sarchedon's lack of courage may never enable him to get anything more than a mile; therefore we are not at the moment putting Sir James Buchanan's son of The Tetrarch in the "Derby picture." Allenby has more the lines and pedigree of a stayer than Sarchedon; we are given to understand that, when beaten in the Two Thousand Guineas, Allenby had received only half a preparation. This no doubt accounts for there being so little muscle on his otherwise handsome frame. Having had one or two good long-distance gallops since with his new schoolmaster, Greek Star, we shall probably find the son of Bayardo and Tagalie stripping brighter and better "tuned" for to-day's contest, in which case he should find no difficulty in confirming his Guineas form with Paragon—though in a like sense the latter should have benefited from the work that has been given him the last week, as on his first outing of the season he generally impressed as being a trifle "stuffy." The Newmarket Stakes being a matter of a mile farther than the Two Thousand Guineas, it should favour Allenby as much as any colt in the race, and Gilpin's best at Epsom may have to look to his laurels to contend with Mr. Walter Raphael's colt and Tetratema.

This week, as much as £1,000 is offered for placing the first four horses in the forthcoming Derby. If nobody succeeds in naming the first four, the £1,000 will be awarded to the sender of a coupon giving the first three—or failing that, for the next best coupon received, so that the £1,000 *must be won* in any event. No follower of racing should fail to take advantage of such a remarkable opportunity. There is no entrance fee of any kind. Free coupon and full particulars on page iii. of cover.

WALKING.

It has, we regret to say, been decided to abandon the Surrey Walking Club's Brighton and Back race, fixed for June 18-19, the entries not justifying the heavy expense entailed. We hope it will not be long ere so truly sporting an event is again held under the auspices of the famous old club.

ROWING.

There is every prospect of a bumper river season—but those commercially interested must not "Kill the goose which lays the golden egg." Last summer exorbitant and preposterous charges were imposed, both for the hire of boats and for little social entertainments, which normally form so essential and enjoyable a feature of a day on the river. *Verb. sap.*

CRICKET.

Our congratulations to Jack Hobbs on his fine century in the opening County match. And further congratulations on his excellent cricket articles in *The National News*, which are attracting so much attention and breathe the spirit of the sport so admirably.

Who was the club captain who skied a ball and declared the innings closed before the fieldsman had time to make the catch?

SWIMMING.

So the swimming ladies have had their way and will indulge in long-distance championships on the same conditions as the men. This on the same conditions as the men. This equality of the sexes "stunt" is a form of suicide at which we prefer not to connive. We are on the side of the Northern Counties Association, which opposed the suggestion.

WEEK'S RACING SELECTIONS.

NEWMARKET—WEDNESDAY.
Spring Stakes—MONARCH.
Newmarket Stakes—ALLENBY.
Flying Handicap—ADOPTED.
Shelford Plate—*HEDU.

NEWMARKET—THURSDAY.
Payne Stakes—*KERASOS.
Three-Year-old Handcp.—MEAVAIG BAY.
Abingdon Plate—SHIMMER FILLY.

GATWICK—FRIDAY.
Alexandra Handicap—ILLUMINATOR.
Worth Plate—*MISS KEEN COLT.
Reigate Welter—KING SOL.

GATWICK—SATURDAY.
Princes' Handicap—IVANHOE.
Home-bred Stakes—OXENDON.
Marlborough Plate—*POLUMETIS.

HAYDOCK PARK—FRIDAY.
Manor Handicap—*DAPHNE.
Makerfield Plate—SUNSTROKE.
Club Plate—SOUTHERN.

HAYDOCK PARK—SATURDAY.
Scurry Plate—*CYLBURN.
Haydock Pk. Handicap—SERVICE KIT.
Copeland Plate—PLANET.

BOXING.

Mr. A. G. Hales is in Wales looking especially for big heavyweights for the JOHN BULL Competition—he wants good new lads of all weights. See the descriptive paragraph on another page.

All the boxing world is waiting for the return of Jimmy Wilde, because rumour has it he is going after the Bantam Championship of the world—and it's not a mad scheme, either.

All kinds of foreign boxers are now swarming to London, and it is whispered that next autumn there will be a German contingent added to the list. We *must* whip them.

A rumour reaches us that a well-known French sportsman has a heavyweight in training who will challenge Carpentier as soon as Georges returns to French soil.

Mr. Bottomley, M.P., is going to devote the whole of the proceeds of one of the JOHN BULL Competitions to the Wounded Soldiers' Fund. A grand cause, grandly helped.

Owen Moran is settling down to hard work in Birmingham, and is collecting a lot of good material. He hopes to work into the Championship class. Time was when the Brums pretty nearly dominated boxing in England—why not again, eh?

FOOTBALL.

Amateur soccer football of the "old boy" class is at a low ebb, and enthusiasm and talent are sorely lacking. Meanwhile, hockey and rugby football are making rapid strides at the public schools and the universities. Why is it? Is it true that the famous Casuals F.C. is about to succumb?

The "signing on" season is producing the usual "denials of the truth" in official circles. All of which shows that many players know more about their prospective movements than do their club managers. What a game!

Some enthusiasts have been appealing for football all the year round. Heaven spare us, after some of the recent exhibitions of end-of-season form.

One of the "relegation" matches was not above suspicion. No wonder the crowd laughed!

LAWN TENNIS RUMOURS.

That N. Misu's impending return to Rumania has inspired M. J. G. Ritchie to write a pathetic ballad "Misu, we shall Misu."

That Miss E. Colyer wishes there were no such things as camera fiends.

That players in general are fed up with hard courts with soft roes.

That not a single British Isles representative will win a championship this year.

That the eighteen-penny teas at Hurlingham were too much for the money.

GOLF.

That the "golf hog," a product of the war, is a bigger nuisance than ever, and an incurable person, is evidenced by the "cut up" condition of the majority of courses. Never have divot holes been so prevalent and green keepers in such despair. Unless matters mend in this and other respects where the etiquette of the game is concerned, a wholesome "weeding out" process will be necessary in many clubs.

The "J.B." Pen, Lever Self-Filling Model.

A 17/6 Pen for 7/-

It fills itself.
It cleans itself.
It cannot leak.

PRICE:
With 1 Coupon, 8/-
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By sending this Coupon with P.O. for 3/3, and 1½d. stamps for postage, the holder is entitled to receive a "John Bull" Gold Nibbed Fountain Pen. STANDARD MODEL. Additional Coupons up to 6 from "John Bull" from any dates may be saved and used in part payment, each counting as 2d. off the price. Thus you may send 7 coupons and P.O. for 2/3 only, and 1½d. stamps for postage.

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N.B.—State whether you prefer a Fine, Medium, or Broad Nib

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BEST & CHEAPEST FOOD TO-DAY

Household Supplies Direct from Grimsby Without Middle Profits to Reduce Cost of Living.

SOLES, TURBOT, BRILL, ETC., AT LESS THAN HALF SHOP PRICES

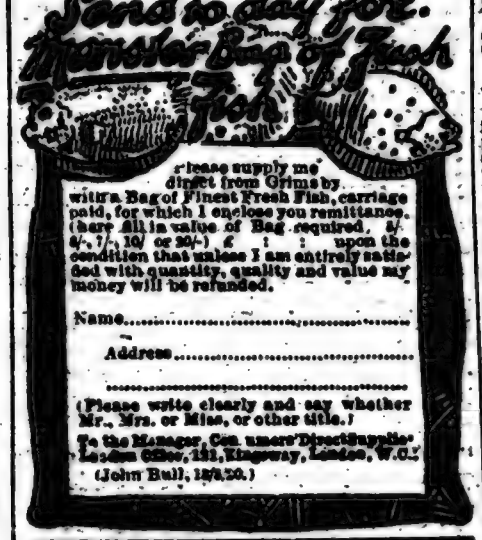
The Best and Cheapest Food to-day is Fish. By doing away with Middle Profits CONSUMERS' DIRECT SUPPLIES provide you Fish direct from Trawler to Table, at less than half the price of the cheapest markets.

Soles, Turbot, Brill and all the Most Expensive Fish can now be had at far less cost than you pay for inferior, coarser kinds.

MONEY BACK IF NOT MORE THAN SATISFIED

You are invited to send to-day for a Bag to eat and enjoy upon the distinct understanding that IF NOT MORE THAN SATISFIED with Quantity, Quality and Value, THE PRICE PAID WILL BE REFUNDED.

Each bag is sent carriage paid. The prices are 5/-, 6/-, 7/-, 10/-, or 20/- Whichever price Bag you send for it will be a revelation of how much you can save and how delicious a food is REALLY fresh fish.



Please supply me direct from Grims by with a Bag of Finest Fresh Fish, carriage paid, for which I enclose you remittance. (here fill in value of Bag required, 5/-, 6/-, 7/-, 10/- or 20/-) £ : : upon the condition that unless I am entirely satisfied with quantity, quality and value my money will be refunded.

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Address.....

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(Please write clearly and say whether Mr., Mrs. or Miss, or other title.)

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(John Bull, 15/5/20.)

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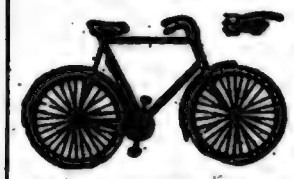

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THE CITY LIFE

And utilise the rent for the repayments.

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15/- per line. (Minimum 3 lines.)

GOOD SPARE-TIME AGENCY.—Applications invited from respectable working men in regular employment to supply Boots, Suits, Drapery, Watches and Jewellery for cash or credit. Liberal supply of samples. Commission, highest paid.—Apply Freeman, Contractors, H.M. Govt., Lavender Hill, London.

BEST and CHEAPEST Wholesale Warehouse for Beginners, Remnants, Drapery, Readymades, Travellers' Samples. Send for Catalogue free.—Cochrane's Warehouse, 7, Victoria Bridge, Manchester.

BOOTS.—4s. saved. Buy direct from our Northampton Factory. Gents', Ladies' and Children's Boots. Send for catalogue.—John Emmet Ltd. Dept. 7, Northampton.

BARGAIN NOVELS.—Ex-library fiction renovated. Equal to new. Send for list to W. H. Smith and Sons' Circulating Library, 186, Strand, or at their bookstalls or bookshops.

HARRIS Tweeds, direct from Scotland, genuine hand-made, hard-wearing, all wool tweed, direct from weaver to wearer, 11s. 6d. a yard; selected patterns post free.—A. Driver (Dept. 24), 86, Eastgate, Inverness, Scotland.

DO YOU WANT FRIENDS? There's many wanting to know you. Send 3½d. for "The Link" (Not Matrimonial). LINK, 2, Wine Office Court, E.C.

LEARN Dutton's 24-hour Shorthand, 2/- per month secure speed of 120 words per minute. Specimen lesson 2d.—Dutton's College, Dept. J. 2, Skegness.

KODAKS and other secondhand cameras at bargain prices. Send for list of 1,000 bargains, post free. Easy payments and exchanges arranged. City Sale and Exchange, 103B, Cannon Street, London, E.C.

CAMERAS WANTED.—HIGH PRICES PAID.—CITY SALE AND EXCHANGE, 103B, Cannon Street, London, E.C.

HARRIS TWEEDS.—Direct from Loom to Wearer Purest Wool, handmade. Best for outdoor and indoor wear. Patterns free. Morrison (Dept. J.B.) Obbe, Harris, N.B.

FOR ALL NERVE TROUBLES send postcard for free sample of Curacos—the Liquid Nerve Tonic, to Curacos Co. (Sec. 2), Elm Grove, London, S.E.15.

CUT YOUR COAL BILL IN HALF.—Buy a stove that burns rubbish and save money. Cost Government £6/6 each. Send 15/- to-day and secure biggest bargain ever offered. Phipps, 4, Midland Works, Harborne.

TENANCY or OWNERSHIP? Our House Purchase System solves this question. Immediate advances. Repayments 10 to 25 years. Write PHA. 106, Alderney St., S.W. 1.

56 lbs finest washing soap 21/- direct from factory Carr. Pd. British Cleaner Co., Ltd., 66, Victoria St. Manchester.

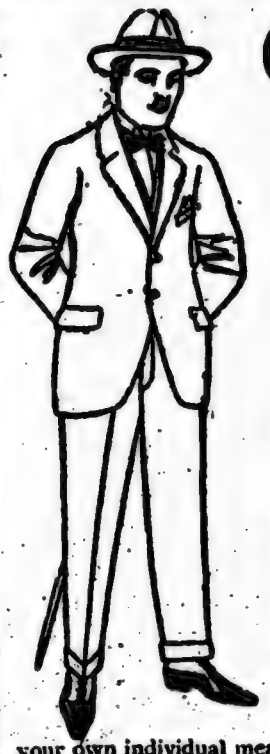
MANUFACTURERS STOCK.—All new goods. One pair full size grey hemmed sheets. One pair full size fleecy blankets. One hemmed bleached bolster case. Two hemmed bleached pillow cases. All carriage paid 47/-. Finest offer ever made. Clarance Mill Co., 4, Piccadilly, Manchester.

STANDARD CONDUCTED BATTLEFIELD TOURS.—Every Saturday London to Ostend, Zeebrugge, Brussels, Louvain, Ypres, Bruges, Antwerp, Paris, the Somme, etc. Fully inclusive Fare without extras, Hotels, Excursions, Tips, 2nd. class travel from £7 15s (weekend) £10 15s. (week). Standard Tours Ltd, 44, Piccadilly, Manchester, or Agents.

"ROYAL AIR FORCE."—Clerks and Skilled Tradesmen required. Pay 3/- to 5/6 on joining, rising to 12/- per day. Age 18 to 23 and for ex-Service men 18 to 38. A limited number of young men (age 18 to 23) also required for training as Wireless Operators. For conditions of service, Separation Allowance, etc., call or write to Inspector of Recruiting, Royal Air Force, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

"CATALOGUE PLEASE."—Simply write these two words on a P.C., add your name and address, and post it. You will then receive my huge, free, 112 Page Catalogue, a Book that means lower prices for you that will save you money. 20 models "Captain" Bicycles from £10 10s., pounds below other makes. Tyres, Accessories, Household goods, Drapery, Raincoats, etc., Most of them at staggering prices. No profiteering. But get book for which there is no obligation. Just send the postcard now, and you will be mighty pleased you did it. H. Fitzpatrick, Dept. 52, Burnley.

GENTS' DOUBLE TEXTURE WATERPROOF COATS for Spring and Holiday wear direct from the Manufacturers. A limited quantity only, of a special line, with double back and shoulders, well ventilated, three shades of Fawn in various sizes, offered at exceptionally low price to clear. Send height and chest measurement, together with cash 29/-. If not entirely satisfied your money will be refunded in full, if coat is returned carriage paid. To secure this bargain send your order to-day, to Magee Bros. 19, Dolphin Street, Ardwick, Manchester.



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"And expect, also, a further rise—preposterous as it may sound—in the cost of men's clothes. The wise man will not wait until next autumn for new suits and overcoats. Many a patriotic man is cursing his timorousness in not ordering large stocks of new clothes in 1916."—EVENING NEWS.

All the clothes we make are sold direct from our factory to wearers, thus saving you the shopkeeper's exorbitant profit.

We do business on a large scale, and this enables us to buy fabrics far cheaper than any shop tailor can. That you get the benefit is easily proved by our prices, which are clearly below those ruling in 1916 with the ordinary shopkeeper.

Remember these suits are not ready-made, or the so-called "finished to measure," which is purely another way of saying ready-made. We tailor every garment to your own individual measurements. You can, if you wish, see your own clothes cut on the premises. When you get the clothes you will be so astonished at the wonderful value we are sure you will not wish to take advantage of our offer to refund the money in full in case of dissatisfaction. But the offer still holds good, and is your guarantee of satisfaction and value.

Lounge Suits made to measure throughout, tailored to your own style and requirements. Fit and style guaranteed.

57/6, 63/-, 77/6, 84/-, 90/-, 105/-

UNSOLICITED APPRECIATION.

We print here a couple of unsolicited testimonials which speak for themselves:—Mr. H. Simpson, of Claremont, Grovehill Road, Beverley, writes:—"Thanks for the suit which arrived quite safely and in good condition. I am very highly satisfied with it, and my one wonder is, how can you turn out good suits at the price, especially at the present day with everything else so dear. Your prices are well within the reach of the working-classes, and the suits are equal to any ten-guinea suits on the market to-day. I have recommended you to my friends and have shown to them the suit, and I expect you will be receiving more orders soon, if you have not already done so." Another customer writes:—"I beg to acknowledge receipt of suit, which is of surprising value. It greatly exceeds my anticipations, and I would not have believed that so excellent a suit could be turned out at such a low price."

Hundreds of similar letters can be seen at the factory, in fact, it would be difficult to conceive anyone being dissatisfied with the marvellous value which the Direct Tailoring Co. are offering.

FREE PATTERNS

Send for patterns and self-measurement form, and compare these patterns with those you obtain elsewhere; it costs you only a penny for a postcard—the extra value will amaze you. Send to-day.

Callers should note that we have no shop. You are requested to walk straight into the factory. Look for the large poster outside the premises.

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MODERNISED PROVERBS.

"All is not gold that glitters,"

just as all substitutes fall far short of BORWICK'S for making deliciously light pies, pastry, cakes, &c.

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BAKING POWDER.

Insist on having BORWICK'S.

BEACON OILSKINS

will keep you dry Always. Men's Coats from 21/-, Ladies', from 38/6, Children's from 24/6 (3 year-old size). Adults' Sou'-westers 3/-, Long Leggings 5/- —all guaranteed absolutely first class—leakage, or dissatisfaction on money-back methods—

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IRON-OX

Tiny Tonic Tablets.

For INDIGESTION, CONSTIPATION, LIVER, or ANÆMIA.

50 Tablets 1/3 — ON SALE EVERYWHERE. — 250 for 5/-

THE "JOHN BULL" GUARANTEE. *We guarantee the goods advertised by every firm whose trade announcement appears in* JOHN BULL, *i.e., we hold ourselves responsible for their being of the quality and standard represented at the time of purchase and the date of payment, either in full or of first instalment, and if any reader can show just cause for dissatisfaction with the purchase of any goods made through any trade advertisement in our columns, we will refund the purchase money, provided the goods complained of are sent to us within one week from the date of original purchase. All communications should be addressed to* JOHN BULL, *Advertisement Department, 22, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.*

"TOMMY AND JACK."

Dealing also with the Discharged Sailor and Soldier and their Dependents.

OUR PLEDGE.—"No case of hardship or injustice, no instance of beggarly treatment or mean cheese-paring, shall go unchallenged or unremedied."—*Horatio Bottomley*, 19th August, 1916.

"TOMMY."

The New Territorials:—The "authorities" are at their wits' end to effect reform in the Territorial units. Things are so bad that the King has had to make an appeal. We understand that generals, with staffs and all the rest of it, still have charge of old drill halls. These are open for recruiting, but few recruits come. They seem to be but local clubs for non-military louts. What has the boss man of the Territorial show to say about it?

From Kantara:—Kantara is on the Canal in Egypt. We have had very many complaints about the place. The poor devils there, who were once "heroes," are now awaiting demobilisation—ill-fed and getting more kicks than halfpence. We presume that there is a "superior authority" at Kantara, and advise him to mend matters.

An Appeal:—We have so many letters from the various quarters of the Royal Air Force that we can only appeal to the chief to go around all the camps and ask for complaints, giving a guarantee that those who come forward will not be victimised.

Badly Off:—We have a letter from the 360th Water Co., R.E., at Bis-el-Abo, in Egypt, complaining that the place is a kind of Devil's Island, where they are kept in by barbed wire and "pestered with snakes, centipedes, flies, mosquitoes, and thousands of other insects." We seem to have heard of similar experiences.

The Army Way:—The other day 2,747 pudding (or tea) basins were sold as surplus Army stores in Dorset. A short distance away a battalion is stationed in which there is such a shortage that one basin has to do for four men.

"JACK."

Jack's Discharge:—Free discharges from he Navy have been stopped; discharges by purchase will be resumed in July.

Good Job Too:—We have had many complaints concerning H.M.S. *Eaglet*, laid up at Liverpool. We are glad to note that she has been paid off. Better late than never.

Lucky Jack:—Awards of salvage money are now ready for distribution for the salvage of the s.s. *Anselma de Larrinaga* by H.M. Tugs *Drage*, *Grappler*, *Enterprise* (now *Emprise*) and *Hector*, in 1918: the salvage of s.s. *Oliver* by H.M. Tug *Gauntlet* in January, 1919; the salvage of the s.s. *Tainui* by H.M. Tugs *Zaree*, *Ætna*, and *Rover* and Dockyard working party between the 9th April and 15th July, 1918; also the salvage of the schooner *Elizabeth Alice* by H.M. Trawler *Cornelius Carroll* on the 14th May, 1919. Discharged and demobilised men concerned should write to the Accountant General to the Navy, Whitehall.

Our Daily "Thank You."

From J. S. A., Bristol:—

Many thanks for your prompt assistance in reply to my letter. I received money order for the balance of credit due to me—five days from posting to you. Having done 3½ years in France, I can appreciate to the full the way in which you champion the cause of "Tommy" and "Jack," and I sincerely hope you will continue to do so for others less fortunate than myself.

"THE SILVER BADGERS."

Secretaries of Discharged Sailors' and Soldiers' organisations, in sending cases of injustice or other information, should mark their envelopes "Silver Badgers."

The Bold, Bad Board:—From Aldershot and elsewhere we hear that the Navy and Army Canteen Board in reducing their staffs are retaining the ladies and sacking the ex-soldiers That is too bad, but what have those numerous associations of ex-Service men to say about it?

On the Cheap:—A body of temporary clerks is employed at the R.A.S.C. Headquarters and Barracks Offices at Dover. The wages are £2 15s. 3d. a week, whereas similar clerks in other Army offices are receiving a minimum rate of £2 17s. 6d. Why the distinction?

"Toll for the Brave"!—We all shouted over that Zeebrugge raid, and swore that the men—all volunteers for death—were demigods. A Master-at-Arms tendered himself to die on the *Vindictive*, but, thank God, he came out of it—with some wounds, the D.C.M., neurasthenia, and shell shock. He was therefore chucked out of the Service with a pension for himself, his wife and child, of £1 0s. 10d. a week, whereas had he not volunteered he would have completed his service in a few years and have had a weekly pension of £1 15s. How we pamper our heroes!

The King's Appeal Flouted:—A resolution passed by ex-Service men at Newcastle-on-Tyne:—"That this Mass Meeting, representing some 20,000, emphatically protests against the confirmation of the appointment of a gentleman who has not served in His Majesty's Forces, as Secretary to the Newcastle War Pensions Committee, and demands that confirmation by the Minister of Pensions be withheld, and that steps be taken to appoint an ex-Service man to the above position." We trust that the new Minister of Pensions will take the matter up.

"The Greatest of These—"

(All expenses of the administration of the Fund are gladly borne by us).

Carry on, Please:—Thanks! Our special appeals have had an appreciable effect, but much more remains to be done, and we hope that the improvement will be maintained. We have many requests for clothing, but few contributions come in.

Among the numerous cases we assisted during the week were the following:—

Workless and Wanting:—A workless ex-soldier has a weekly pension of 16s. His wife is ill, and there are several young children to keep. Who could turn a deaf ear to his appeal?

A Desolate Home:—An ex-Service man has a wife who has been ailing and in bed for some weeks. Their baby had just died, there was little food in the house, and many small debts had been contracted. A case typical of thousands!

On Short Commons:—The wife of another discharged soldier called upon us. She has five small children, one of whom is ill, and the only income of the family is 16s. 2d. a week pension.

To Bury His Father:—A young soldier visited us seeking assistance towards the cost of the interment of his father, who had died uninsured.

A Hard Fate:—A man who is ill himself and cannot work has an invalid wife. There are seven small mouths to be fed, and when we were applied to the larder was bare.

Left to Struggle:—A woman whose husband recently died, and who has been left with three little children, came to us with proof of the deep distress and destitution of her little family.

A HERO'S SUFFERINGS.

(A case typical of the many of distress and hardship which have been relieved by our Fund during the week.)

Shot through the lungs during his spell of service in France, an ex-soldier at Shrewsbury finds himself terribly handicapped in the struggle for existence. Seldom free from pain, and easily exhausted by physical effort, he is unable to perform any but the lightest tasks—and but for the claims of his wife and five children, would be inclined to throw up the sponge and try the effects of hospital treatment. The total of his Army pension is 16s. 2d. a week, and his slender pittance, supplemented by his scanty earnings as a casual labourer, represents the sole income available for the support of the family of seven persons—including an invalid child. This poor mite, it appears, having been treated for four months by a private doctor, is now an out-patient at the Infirmary, the mother, being at her wits' ends to procure suitable food for the child and to meet a bill of £7 for medicine and surgical attendance. The choice seems to be between debt and starvation, and in these sad circumstances the mother forwards a pathetic appeal for assistance from our "Greatest of These" Fund. The largest grant that our resources will permit falls far short of the urgent needs of the situation, but it will serve, at any rate, as a token of sympathy, and, let us hope, as a means of encouragement to a battered hero of the war, whose pluck was not exhausted on the battlefield. The fact that this poor fellow joined the Army within three months of the outbreak of war—being demobilised only in July of this year—gives him an incontestable claim upon the gratitude of the public—to say nothing of the mother's torturing anxiety, and the children's mute appeal.

[The object of our Fund is to relieve (a) the dependents of our Soldiers and Sailors, and (b) suffering amongst the poor generally. No genuine appeal is ever refused, and although we see to it that adequate proof is presented in every case relieved, no harassing or degrading questions are put to applicants. Will you please help?]

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

"Sympathy" (Doncaster), 5s.; "Baby Goo-Goo," 5s.; F. W. (Southall), 2s. and parcel; "In Loving Memory of J. S." (Sussex), 2s. 6d.; J. McC. (Dublin), 5s.; R. M. H. (Ainsdale), £1; F. J. L., 5s.; F. H. (Dewsbury), 3s.; H. W. B. (St Albans), 1s.; "Monifieth," 2s.; "Fum Fum" (Richmond), 2s.; "Twenty-Five Years a Widow," 5s. Mrs. A. N. (Market Drayton), 5s.; H. H. (Lochwinnoch), 1s.; "Old Navy," 2s.; E. W. (St. John's Wood), 1s.; R. A. G. (East Ham), 2s. 6d.; A. E. W. 13s.; V. H. H. (N. Kensington), 2s.; "In Loving Memory of My Dearest and Best" (per F. W.), 2s. 6d.; E. B. (Enfield), 1s.; M. E. B., 2s. 6d.; F. G. (Hove), 2s. 6d.; "Grannie" (Southampton), 2s. 6d.; "A Soldier's Wife" (Bedford Park), 10s.; "A Widow" (Bristol), 1s.; F. C., 10s.; L. A., 3s. 5d.; Mrs. R. J., £1; A. and A. W., 15s.; M. L. R. (Leytonstone), 3s.; "Brownie," 3s.; "In Memory of Bruce," 2s. 6d.; "Mother" (Redhill), 5s.; "A Regular Reader of JOHN BULL" (Dunkirk), 10s.; Mrs. E. D. 4s.; "A Reader" (Bournemouth), 2s.; R. H. B. (Catford), 2s.; F. P. (Bulwell), 1s.; J. D. (Leeds), £1; H. R. B. (Gerrards Cross), 10s.; Anon. (Norwood), 3d.; G. M. R. (Taunton), 2s. 6d.; J. A. B. (Malton), 10s.; "Nina" (Edlington), 5s.; "No. 5" (Barrow), £1; G. H. W. (Wimbledon), 5s.; J. C. (Clapham Common), 5s.; H. E. F. (Rayleigh), 2s. 6d.; "A Sympathiser" (Coventry), 10s.; Anon., 3½d.; S. W. (Preston), 1s.; A. J. H. (Highampton), 6d.; S. P., 6d.; J. A. M., 2s. 6d.; "Rothesay," 4s.; F. F. (Stroud), 2s. 6d.; M. M. R., 1s.; F. T. H. (Manchester), 7s. 6d.; "Spec," 10s.; M. J. H., 2s. 6d.; W. C. (Coulsdon), £1 1s.; I. K. (Golder's Green), £1 1s.; "A Sympathiser" (East Ham), 5s.; "Kia Ora," 12s.; E. F. (Stoke Ferry), 5s.; M. F. (Kenley), £1; C. G. B., 1s.; A. W. B., £10; S. N. (Sheffield), 1s.; B. E. A. (London, N.W.), £5; E. M. H. (Wood Green), 2s. 6d.; "Post Office Worker" (E.C.3), 2s. 6d.; J. C. B. (Peverell), 1s.; Mrs. M. (Brockley), 2s.; W. O. (Manchester), 1s.; N. S. (Wednesfield), 1s. and parcel; S. B. (Surrey), 5s.; "New Cross," 5s.; E. D. H. (Hove), £1; and parcel; "Steven," 7s. 6d.; E. W. (N. Kensington), 2s. 6d.; N. M. (Glasgow), 4s.; "H.H.H.H.H." 5s.; A. C. E. (Salcombe), 1s.; "For Ted's Sake," 2s. 6d.; A. O. T. (Seacombe), 2s. 6d.; H. R., 10s.; Mrs. M. J. T. (Gilfach Goch), 6d.; P. C. (Sunderland), 2s. 6d.; W. J. T. (Heiston), 2s.; C. G. B., 3d.; "In Memory of My Father," £1; "Odds and Ends" (Wealdstone), 5s.; J. O., 5s.; B. S. (Norwich), £1; "Ex-Royal Marine," 2s.; "One Who Admires Your Efforts to Help Those Unable To Help Themselves," 1s. 6d.; W. H. P. (Bradford), 1s.; "Tommy" (Clapham Junction), 2s. 6d.; H. C. (Stockton), 5s.; "Inasmuch" (W. Hartlepool), 5s.; "My D. O. G.," 5s.; W. Y. (Coleraine), 10s.; Mrs. R. R. (Thurstonc), 2s. 6d.; A. W. (Dobeross), 2s. 6d.; H. R. S. and B. S. (Fareham), 5s.; "C," 1s.; W. M. (Mortlake), 1s.; R. A. S. C. (Selby), 1s. 6d.; M. E. C. (Liverpool), 2s. 6d.; P. Q. (Idaho), 1s. 4d.; "Two Lonely Ones" (Largs), 1s. 6d.; "Winslow," 2s. 6d.; E. C. (Edinburgh), 1s. 6d.; "1914," £1.

Mr. C. Greyson, winner of the First Prize in our "Bulletin" Competition No. 369, has kindly sent us £5.

To Skin Sufferers

Instantaneous and Phenomenal Success of Germolene, the New Aseptic Skin Dressing.

AWARDED GOLD MEDALS AND DIPLOMAS AT FOUR INTERNATIONAL PHARMACEUTICAL EXHIBITIONS.

Germolene marks the beginning of a New Era in Skin and Wound Treatment.

Germolene is a new remedy, based on new knowledge and compounded by new methods. It is planned upon the latest system of treatment for skin diseases, and makes modern practice available in every home. Germolene is entirely unlike anything hitherto offered to the public in that *it combines perfect asepsis (freedom from germs) with a healing power which is altogether unprecedented.*

It has long been known to medical men that ordinary antiseptics retard healing, and therefore do not prove satisfactory. When strong enough to destroy germs, these antiseptics exert an injurious effect upon the tissues also, and thus prevent natural healing; on the other hand, when not strong enough to injure the tissues they have practically no power to destroy germ life.

For this reason the Antiseptic system (or Germ-destruction) has given place to the Aseptic system (or Germ-prevention) in modern practice.

There are many antiseptic preparations on the market; there is only one that is Aseptic, that is Germolene.

Germolene excludes germs, draws out all poisonous or toxic matter, and promotes natural and rapid restoration of skin health and beauty.

SKIN BLEMISHES.

The efficacy of Germolene is so immediate and pronounced that it marks a distinct advance in the treatment of skin blemishes, rashes, pimples, rough, discoloured or chapped skin. Disfiguring pimples and rashes soon give place to soft purity of complexion when Germolene is used, because this incomparable remedy frees the skin from the clogging impurities which cause them.

HÆMORRHOIDS OR PILES.

Germolene instantly soothes the heat and irritation of piles or hæmorrhoids and the throbbing pain of ulcers and wounds; while its first touch allays the intense itching of eczema, psoriasis, and similar skin maladies.

ULCERS AND OPEN WOUNDS.

Mothers will find in Germolene a remedy of great value for ringworm, impetigo, and the many rashes and skin eruptions from which children so frequently suffer. Germolene is a skin healer so exquisitely cooling that the mere touch of it soothes the inflamed part, while its aseptic power arrests the growth of ringworm "fungus," and soon restores the child's skin to natural health.

ITCHING, ECZEMA AND PSORIASIS.

As germ life cannot exist in the presence of Germolene, it is of highest value as a nursery application for any parasitic growth in children's hair.

CHILDREN'S SKIN TROUBLES.

For chilblains, chapped hands, or cuts, burns, scratches, stings, and other little accidents of daily life, Germolene is ideal; it kills the venom in the wound and prevents all danger of blood poisoning, inflammation, or other complications.

CHAPPED HANDS AND CHILBLAINS.

These are facts deduced from actual tests and observations in a wide variety of cases.

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AWARDED FOUR GOLD MEDALS AND DIPLOMAS

AT LEADING PHARMACEUTICAL EXHIBITIONS.

So successful has Germolene proved that already the Manufacturers have been awarded gold medals and diplomas at four International Pharmaceutical Exhibitions for the incomparable purity and efficacy of this great Aseptic preparation for

Eczema	Piles	Skin Eruptions
Psoriasis	Itching	Pimples
Rashes	Ringworm	Chapped Hands
Ulcers	Cuts & Burns	Chilblains

and all itching, ulcerated, abraded and inflamed surfaces.

Highest Awards
Germolene
ASEPTIC • HEALING • SOOTHING
Invaluable as an Excellent Embrocation or Skin Dressing.
See Directions in Book

Prices 1/3 & 3/-. Sold by all Chemists and Stores everywhere. Ask distinctly for Germolene.

FREE OPINION AND INSTRUCTION BY POST.

For an opinion as to the suitability of Germolene in your case, with treatise on "Skin Maladies," address The Veno Drug Co., Ltd., Manufacturing Chemists, Manchester, Eng.

Germolene

The Aseptic Skin Dressing

All correspondence relating to financial matters should be addressed to the City Editor.

JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

FINANCIAL NOTES—AND ADVICE TO INVESTORS.

BY OUR CITY EDITOR.

Each enquiry must bear name and address and be accompanied by a Postal Order for One Shilling.

Borrowing to Lend.

At the Guildhall meeting last week to inaugurate the Housing Campaign, it was stated that bankers would be prepared to grant their customers advances in order to take up Housing Bonds, but I am a little doubtful whether this will do much to help the cause. Similar facilities in connection with War Loans did not result in very encouraging experiences. If the advances were not paid off rapidly enough, increased interest was charged or the stock had to be sold at a heavy loss. It is poor fun to borrow at a high rate of interest in order to lend at a lower.

Great Imperial Merger.

It has been known for some time past that negotiations were in progress for a great combine of British and Canadian iron and steel interests, the former having vast capital and experience and the latter unlimited natural resources. An official announcement is now made that the British Empire Steel Corporation has been formed in Ottawa with a capital of £100,000,000, and the properties involved include the Dominion Steel Corporation, the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Co., the Canada Steamship Lines and eight smaller enterprises, including the principal shipbuilding yards in Canada. Lt.-Col. Grant Morden has acted as representative of the British interests in bringing about the combination, which will rank as one of the largest in the world, and will have a powerful influence on the development of the Empire's resources.

Trinidad Oil.

Interest has been aroused in the shares of the Trinidad Dominion Oil, Limited, on the publication of a circular stating that Messrs. A. Beaby, Thompson, the well-known petroleum engineers, have been appointed as consulting engineers to the Company, and that boring operations on the oil properties at Guayaguayare Bay, mapped out by Dr. T. R. Marshall, M.I.M.E., will be carried out under their technical supervision. The Company owns rights over three oil-bearing properties in Trinidad totalling 1,331 acres, selected originally by Mr. R. Rust, the pioneer of the Trinidad oil industry—one of them covering about 550 acres and being surrounded on three sides by leases owned by the successful British West Indies Petroleum Syndicate. With the active boring operations now to be undertaken, rapid progress is expected towards the stage of production.

A MASTERLY MANIFESTO.

Sir E. Mackay Edgar, head of the firm of Messrs. Sperling and Co., and intimately associated in the direction of some of the largest industrial ventures controlled by British capital, has performed a great patriotic service in focusing public opinion on the extravagance of the present Government. The statement he has circulated among his co-directors and fellow-shareholders is a masterly indictment of the intolerable Budget at present being perfunctorily considered by Parliament. Hitherto the City has been content to grumble more or less inarticulately at the crushing burden of taxation imposed on the trade and industry of the country without taking steps to enter any effective protest, but under Sir Edward's lead a spirit of fierce revolt has arisen, and that is the first essential towards securing reforms. At this time of day it is unnecessary to expatiate at any length on the fundamental objections to the excess profits duty—its unjust incidence, its encouragement of extravagance and high prices, its blighting influence on enterprise and the development of new businesses. All that is admitted, even by the Chancellor of the Exchequer himself. The search, however, for a substitute—such as a levy on capital or war wealth, or an increase of the corporation tax on profits—is merely a futile attempt to grasp the wrong end of the stick. Expenditure must be cut down, not more revenue raised. I have previously called attention to the fact that the 1,400 million Budget, instead of providing a surplus for the repayment of debt, actually shows a deficit of some £76,000,000. Everyone admits that taxation must necessarily be heavy for a good many years to come, but that is a very different matter from squandering innumerable millions on useless Government departments. These departments must be abolished, and the army of parasites, paid out of public funds, must be demobilised to find productive employment elsewhere. All the various "controls" are hindering, not helping, the recuperation of industry, and at a moderate estimate there would be a saving of £300,000,000 a year if they could be got rid of. That is the only way to recapture our pre-war prosperity, and Sir E. Mackay Edgar does well to drive the point home. Economy and de-control, how are those "sacred" words taken in vain!

Rival Financial Tipsters.

The wonderful success of his tip for Mozambiques prompts me to endeavour to emulate the example of my *confrère*, the City Editor of the *National News*. "From information received," as the policeman witness said, I am confident that a purchase of Fine Cotton Spinners at present prices will show a good profit within the next few weeks.

United Rubber Products.

The 2s. shares in this concern are being industriously puffed in certain quarters, and a "statement of particulars for private circulation only" has been freely dumped into all and sundry letter boxes. This statement is mainly a farrago of meaningless generalities, from which such important items as the capital and purchase price are carefully omitted. It is not calculated to impress the cautious investor, but it may appeal to the inexperienced, whom I recommend to leave the shares alone.

How Not To Do It.

A correspondent gives me particulars of a transaction he had with the Canadian and General Trust, of 3, Lombard Street. He sent a cheque to be invested in a certain security, and it was duly cashed, but not acknowledged. After some pressure the receipt of the cheque was admitted, but repeated applications for the money to be returned have failed to elicit a reply. Of course there may be some valid explanation, but it does not appear on the surface, and such methods of doing business are not calculated to inspire confidence.

'Ware Cornish Quarries!

Several Cornish slate and granite properties have recently been offered for public subscription under what appeared to be favourable auspices, with such names as those of Lord Teynham and Sir Roger W. B. Onslow figuring on one or two of the boards. I have reason to believe, however, that one of the prime movers in the matter is the notorious Charles Wm. Neville, of "Anzac-on-Sea" fame, and I am not surprised to learn that, in the opinion of people on the spot, these concerns are grossly over-capitalised. In the case of the Cornish Slate Quarries, which came out about a year ago, it is said that the Company is already approaching the end of its resources, and that most of the men have been discharged. An official statement on the subject would be welcome.

OUR FINANCIAL LETTER BAG.

EDITORIAL REPLIES.

(All enquiries must be accompanied by a postal order for 1s., and bear the full name and address of correspondent as evidence of good faith.)

M. H. (Bedale).—*Congo Bond:* You should write to the address in Brussels given on the Bond and ask if the number has been drawn. Except for the chance of winning a prize, it is only worth a few shillings.——R. F. W. (West Hartlepool).—*War Savings Certificates:* You are quite wrong. These certificates were the best investment for a small man in the world. Interest was calculated at 5 per cent. compound for five years; of course, you could not get 5 per cent. full at the end of 17 months.——C. C. P. (Hounslow).—*Amalgamated Mines of West Africa:* Nothing has been heard of the company since 1914, and I am afraid the shares are valueless.——F. S. L. (Clapham Park).—*Low Temp. Carbonisation:* It is the same old wheeze as the *British Coalite* put forward, and cost the public a million or so to prove its failure. Don't touch it.——W. G. Ti(pton).—*Bikam Rubber Estates* are quite good. I do not profess to know what will happen to any company or group of companies within the next twelve months or two years. *Metropolitan Railway* stock looked cheap at the time, and I still favour it, but when a share is round 75 per cent. discount it must be obvious that it is extremely speculative. If things go well, good; if they go the other way, the best policy is to cut your loss immediately.——A. R. B. (Ashtead).—If absolute security is essential, confine yourself to Government securities, and the new Treasury Bonds are excellent from this point of view. *Marconis* are good, but far from certain, and *Bengal Irons* have done magnificently. *South-West Africa* cannot be regarded as otherwise than a very speculative proposition.——T. E. (Wandsworth).—*New Gold Proprietary*, *Nile Valley*, and *Galician Oil Trust* have completely disappeared, and the shares are worthless.——E. J. C. (Bristol).—*R. W. Crabtree* and *United Strip* preference shares are both fair industrial investments. *Manihot Rubbers* are very speculative, as all the conditions are uncertain. Better confine your attention to properties in proved localities.——H. W. (Bedford).—*United Realisation:* You cannot make something out of nothing, and the company has only succeeded in piling up debts. But I should hold on to the shares; there is a chance that they will be of value one of these days.——F. Y. (Blackpool).—*Trinidad Dominion:* It is a fair speculative proposition and the market looks promising. You must, however, be prepared to run a considerable risk of losing some of your money.——J. B. (Bristol).—*Local Loans:* There is no chance of improvement in the near future. On the other hand, by the time you paid the expenses of exchanging into something else there would be no advantage to you worth mentioning, so I advise you to hold on.——D. S. (Aberdeen).—*Gwalia Central:* I do not think you should put any more money into the venture unless you regard it as a pure gamble.——C. E. R. (Hythe).—*Pelman Shares:* I would not pay attention to the opinion of the firm mentioned, as in my opinion it is quite unreliable. The concern is a very enterprising one and should do well.——J. E. B. (N.W.).—*United Service Transport:* The company came out under excellent auspices and I think you should hold. The present price is about 16s. 6d. for the preference. I have not seen any recent quotation for the ordinaries. You would have to sell on the Stock Exchange.

(A considerable number of replies are held over for lack of space, but every endeavour is being made to answer them promptly by post.)

ADVERTISERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS.

COMPANY MEETING.

ECONOMY AND DE-CONTROL.

MAKE THESE THE NATION'S WATCHWORDS!

£1,400,000,000 BUDGETS SPELL RUIN!

Statement to his Co-Directors and Fellow Shareholders by SIR EDWARD MACKAY EDGAR, Bart., of Messrs. Sperling and Co., who is Director of and jointly responsible for the financing of the majority of the following Companies:—

BRITISH CONTROLLED OILFIELDS.
FAIRFIELD SHIPBUILDING and ENGINEERING CO.
LANARKSHIRE STEEL CO.
NATIONAL MINING CORPORATION.
NORTHUMBERLAND SHIPBUILDING CO.
RUSSO-ASIATIC CONSOLIDATED.
WILLIAM DOXFORD and SONS.
WORKMAN, CLARK and CO.
WORLD'S AUXILIARY INSURANCE CORPORATION.
ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES INSURANCE CORPORATION (Chairman).
MONMOUTH SHIPBUILDING CO. (National Shipyards).
CROSSES and WINKWORTH CONSOLD. MILLS (Chairman).
ALABAMA TRACTION, LIGHT and POWER CO.
AMERICAN CYANAMID CO.
BRITISH COLUMBIAN BREWERIES.
CITIES SERVICE COMPANY (1st Vice-President).
MISSISSIPPI RIVER POWER CO.

THE DEADLY EXCESS PROFITS DUTY.

As briefly and as clearly as I can, I desire to outline to you the situation likely to be created when—as I fear must be the case—the proposed Excess Profits Tax and Corporation Tax become law. I think there is no question that I am voicing the view of all business men in this Country who have made any study of economics when I say that if these proposals are carried we are face to face with a situation that can only be described as grave in the extreme.

It seems to me that the position can be stated in a very few words. To me the writing on the wall is as clear as a printed book. The majority of questions involving economics are usually intricate and difficult, but in this case there can surely be little doubt.

New Business Killed.

It is unnecessary, perhaps, to refer further to the grotesque unfairness of the Excess Profits Tax. We will agree that that is patent to all. The new business, the business that is being built up by the brains of the younger men, is hopelessly penalised. Mr. Baldwin has announced that concessions in this respect will be made, but in order to give new business a fair chance the concessions would have to be greater than there is any likelihood of his granting. No one, unless he is demented, will start a new concern, face to face with the fact that he has no pre-war standard and that he must pay a tax so great that he cannot hope to compete with the old-established firms in his line of business—firms which were lucky enough to be in operation prior to the war, and so are blessed with a margin of profit before the tax becomes operative.

So we can rule out the young man with ideas. They may—and no doubt are—full of enthusiasm and belief in themselves. But when they come to translate their enthusiasm into hard facts and have to find the people ready to back them with money, they will be up against quite another proposition. It will not be business. My sympathies are all with the young men. I am sure that the future of this Country must be with them. But as the head of an issuing house, should I now be approached with a suggestion of a new business in this Country, there can only be one answer that I can make. Regretfully I must decline. The handicap is too great.

It seems to me that this tax must inevitably kill enterprise, the very life-blood of our nation. I can give a very good illustration of this point. The Northumberland Shipbuilding Company, of which I am a director, have only just lately purchased the National Shipyard at Chepstow from a Government Department, on the understanding that the Excess Profits Tax would be taken off or reduced. Chepstow has no pre-war standard. The terms of the contract call for a large annual payment, and under these new proposals the yard will not be allowed to keep sufficient of its earnings to meet the charge. What can we do? As directors of a business concern, responsible to our shareholders, we cannot run the yard at a loss, and, much as we should regret it, the only alternative seems to be that we may be forced to shut down and throw 1,500 men out of employment. It really comes to this, that this tax will protect old-established firms against the competition of new enterprise.

Firms already in existence will meet the situation in another way. They will put up the cost of their products. No matter what it is that they produce, cotton, steel, woollens, they will meet the fact that they have to pay so much more to the Treasury by charging their customers so much more for whatever it may be that they manufacture. They cannot be altruistic. They are responsible to their shareholders, and they must show profits. And the only way to show profits is by increasing production or by putting up prices. It is easy to say that the problem can be solved by increasing production. I admit that if everyone was willing and able to produce his maximum output for three hundred days in the year, we might be able to meet the situation. But when the theorist talks gaily of solving our troubles by increased production he is ignorant of or forgets one all-important factor.

Huge Credits Needed.

In order to produce, to make anything, it is necessary to find financial credit, whereby one is able to buy the raw material required and carry it over until the finished article can be sold, and the loan repaid. In normal pre-war times this was an ordinary everyday transaction. If the business was a good, sound one, there was no difficulty. The banks were ready and glad to lend to any client so long as the enterprise justified the loan. But to-day we are confronted with quite a different situation. The banks have only so much money to lend. Credits to only a certain amount can be granted. And now, owing to the increased cost of the raw material required, almost every business in this or any other country find it necessary to ask its bank for a very much larger amount of credit than before. To take one case—which is quite typical of all trade—the increase in the cost of raw cotton is such that many cotton mills have to make financial arrangements involving a sum nearly ten times as great as they were in the habit of asking for in 1914. And you must remember the banks have only so much money to lend. And so we are confronted with this—that owing to the enormously increased cost of raw material the banks cannot finance the industry of the country as it should be financed. To my mind this is one of the most grave aspects of the whole problem, and is one that has not been touched on at all in the debates that have so far taken place in the House of Commons.

Must not the result of this be that production will be stifled? Business will find it impossible to finance in a way that will allow it to make extensions and increase production. The weaker concerns will be unable to find the money they require and will shut down. The stronger will get the financing and will meet the taxation by the only means in their power—they must put up the price of their product. It does not matter what the product is: steel, food, houses, boots, necessaries or luxuries, the inevitable result of this tax must be that cost must go up and all manufacturers will charge more to make up for what they are called on to pay by the Government. The manufacturer of steel plates will put up the price of his plates to the ship-builder. The shipbuilder will put up the price of the ship to the shipowner; until finally we reach a point where the shipowner cannot afford to buy the ship, as it is not a paying proposition. He cannot make a profit on the original cost. In many trades we are nearing that point now.

And so we get the same old vicious circle. The Dervish Dance of increased cost of manufactured goods and increased cost of living must surely be accelerated. We will whirl on, ever faster and ever faster, until the breaking point is reached and we fall exhausted. Do not let us think that only capital is hard hit. Labour will suffer as much or more. If only part of the productive capacity of the country can be utilised owing to the impossibility of financing industry to its full extent, works must surely be shut down and men thrown out of employment. There can be no question of this. It is as certain as that night will follow day.

The Treasury's Blunder.

What is the alternative? So long as the country is called upon to pay this quite fantastic sum of £1,400,000,000 in one year, there is no alternative. We are beginning at the wrong end. A man with £1,000 a year does not sit down to consider how he can find the money to spend £2,000 a year. A limited liability company making £100,000 does not enter into obligations to set up a variety of new departments the upkeep of which are sufficient to more than absorb the company's entire income. If they wish to avoid bankruptcy, both the individual and the company must cut their clothes to suit their cloth. It is not a case with them of spending whatever they feel like spending and then casting round for some method of meeting the bill. They first decide how much they can possibly spend, and lay out their plans according to that figure.

No such elementary idea as this seems to appeal to the Treasury. The bureaucratic mind has never quite been able to grasp the fact that Governments are subject to economic laws every bit as much as limited liability companies and individuals. Governments like everyone else must conform to the rules. There is a point in taxation where, by its very weight, its object is defeated. I do not hesitate for a moment in saying that, in my opinion, should these proposals be carried, we shall have passed that point. The goose will have ceased to lay, the poor thing will have been starved to death.

Our Only Salvation.

Economy, economy, economy can be the only salvation. Try and put yourself back into the mentality of ten short years ago, and imagine a department of Government owning up to a mistake in estimates of £100,000,000 in one year. Do you remember how uneasy we all were when the year's Budget reached £200,000,000 not so long ago? To be accurate, in 1914. And here we are confronted with one department showing just half this amount under-estimated. It may be that the Shipping-Control is bearing the brunt of expenditure that as a matter of fact should have been debited against other departments. But that does not alter the fact that the country is £100,000,000 worse off in this respect alone than it had been given to understand was the case. It is nothing short of fantastic. I suppose the rules of debate were responsible for the fact that in the House of Commons during the Report stage discussion on this Tax not one speaker referred to this aspect of the question. But it will only be by incessant reiteration of the doctrine of economy, in season and out of season, that the official mind may at last be made to grasp the fact that by that and by that alone can this country hope to weather the storms which are blowing up nearer every day.

The only alternative to this proposed taxation—you can have your capital levy or war wealth tax, they are only variations of the same theme—the only alternative to this proposed taxation is economy, ruthless economy, in the Government Service. Cut down these absurd estimates. And as a first step towards that do away with all these controls that are strangling the mercantile community. They are altogether foreign to the individualistic spirit of this country. They are stifling every form of enterprise. No doubt they were necessary when we were at war, they were accepted then by the country at large as a necessary evil. But we now have one more illustration of that accepted fact—that the limpet is a mere child at his job compared with the Government official. He won't let go. The only way to get rid of him is to tear him away. I only pray that before it is too late we may find a statesman courageous enough to do the tearing.

Personally I think that the Chancellor is putting a burden on this generation that cannot possibly be justified. He budgets for a possible repayment of debt amounting to no less than £500,000,000 in two years. The people who have slaved and fought through five ghastly years of war are now to be called on to pay such a sum as this. Just when we are beginning to get busy again he imposes a burden that is altogether beyond our strength. When a sick man is recovering from a deadly illness the doctor does not suggest that he should take a pint of blood from him. But that is what Mr. Chamberlain is doing. Instead of feeding up the patient and doing everything possible to strengthen him, the Chancellor proposes to give him a good bleeding.

And remember this. Mr. Chamberlain says nothing about ear-marking this £500,000,000 for debt redemption. He merely expresses a pious hope. But unless public opinion forces members of the House of Commons to once more control expenditure, I doubt very much indeed whether a quarter of this amount will ever be used for the purpose. The Departments, the Controls will get it. The orgy of spending will go on. Estimates will be found to be just figures having no relation at all to final costs. And the £500,000,000 will melt away in supplementary credits which will be passed after half-an-hour's discussion in an empty House.

A Vital Issue.

I am afraid there is little or no chance of these proposals of the Chancellor's being defeated. They will in all probability become law. I think the country generally and most certainly the mercantile community, is very much disturbed by this awful weight of taxation. But it takes time to crystallise public opinion. Let us look on this as spilt milk. But let us make up our minds that no more shall be spilt. There must be an active campaign for economy and de-control. In no other way can we come down to earth. At present we are floating away far above solid ground. If only we are given a fair chance, if only we are allowed to rid ourselves of this millstone. I have not the smallest doubt in my mind that this country has the greatest opportunity that any country has ever had in history. Of course, we must be heavily taxed. After such a struggle as we have had that cannot be avoided. All the more reason that every penny spent should be scrutinised and scrutinised again.

It is no use treating this position as academic, fit only for professors of economics. It is vital to every man, woman and child in this country, employers and employed alike. And unless the majority of voters can be made to realise that fact we must inevitably drift on to national bankruptcy.

E. MACKAY EDGAR.

The NATIONAL NEWS takes national views—every Sunday.

"John Bull's" Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and chats with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

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LADY ASTOR.—We have to thank a great number of readers who have sent us letters of appreciation of our action in regard to the Member for Plymouth.

"A CONSTANT READER" (Brighton).—"May I say how heartily I agree with you in bringing to light the massage scandal?" Of course you may; we shall be delighted to listen to the dulcet tones of your sweet voice.

A. V. (Cheshire).—The House of Commons as a whole makes no serious attempt to grapple with the incompetency, impotency, and impolicy of the Food Control.

"BROTHER-MEMBER" (W. Africa).—"What the Empire needs is not so much a Government to handle the nation as a Man to handle the Government." Unfortunately said Government count most on a division.

G. P. R. B. (Dover).—"Your current issue—that's the stuff to give 'em. Yours till Phlegethon freezes." And yours even later.

"A TRUE BRITON" (Crouch End).—"The daily press must be hard up for real good news—can you not help them?" They help themselves to ours. By the bye, which is your crouch end?

"1915" (Bristol).—If at least three Mons men were overlooked, and three men who did not join up till 1918 were included, the Tramways Co. must have been misled in their choice of those to witness the presentation of the Freedom of the City to Earl Haig.

"IRISH PROTESTANT" (Gateshead).—"The most despicable Government of modern times, of which you are a member." It's the first we have heard of it, but news does come from strange places.

A. E. E. (Poplar) inquires why we're so bitter against the Yanks. Because they're so mild with the Huns.

"DISGUSTED SOLDIERS" (Ireland).—"The Government might find better work for us to do than to bring us out on raids at 2 and 3 o'clock in the morning only to release our prisoners because they won't take their meals." No wonder *you're* "fed up."

A. L. (Newcastle).—"Stop being obsequious to the lowest scoundrels on earth, and then you will find a populace supporting you in the obliteration of the worst ramp in the world—the Lunacy ramp, conducted by medicals." The medicals haven't noticed *you* by any chance?

T. A. H. D. (Montreux).—Note your suggestion that we should follow the example of France, Switzerland, and Germany, and impose a tax on foreign visitors. Our Chancellors of the Exchequer, however, notoriously prefer to increase already excessive forms of taxation, rather than seek new forms of revenue.

S. C. (Upper Clapton).—Our recently published tribute to the memory of "K. of K." has elicited warm acknowledgments from numbers of "Kitchener's Men."

L. J. (Bayswater).—No use expecting the present House of Commons to repeal the Lotteries Act. As the Premium Bonds incident showed, they stand in unholy awe of the "little Bethels."

W. A. (Grimsby).—We are strongly in favour of Divorce Law Reform; but, as was shown by the recent vote in the House of Commons, there is very little prospect of early legislation on the subject.

"ONE OF THE FIRST HUNDRED THOUSAND" (Greenwich).—"Oh, if there were only a few more men like you in this old Blighty of ours!" But as we so often told you, sonny, it is no use crying for the moon.

W. V. W. (Regent's Park).—If, as you say, you are "very keen on politics, but do not know which Party to join," why not follow our example and be independent of them all?

A. E. V. (Redruth).—The proposed increased motor-tax will fall with unjust severity on many disabled ex-Service men who are struggling to support themselves and their dependents by means of a motor-cycle. One may almost say of the clauses of Chamberlain's Budget: "There is none righteous, no, not one."

J. C. (Belfast).—So kind of you to tell us the gentleman is a "half-lunatic who has taken a dirty advantage," but we cannot print his name and address even to oblige you. He might deny the soft insinuation.

"ANONYMOUS" (Mansfield).—"I am sorry to send you an annonimous letter . . . I know you will take no notice, that's the reason I sent it unstamped." We did take notice, and had to pay the postman 3d. Dub up.

P. S. (Preston).—Surely there is still enough laugh in the world to enable you to get a laugh out of it.

"READER" (Chester).—Your husband's is a hard case. Unfortunately, publicity might do him more harm than good with the firm to whom he will have to refer.

W. H. (Little Drayton).—"I am teetotal now, but I am not bigoted against anyone who has a pint of beer." We suppose it's when he goes out for a swim that you implore him to stick to water.

"IGNORAMUS" (Tunbridge Wells).—"What's the diff. between a Tombola and a Golden Ballot?" The one was over before it was stopped, and the other was stopped before it was over.

L. A. S. (U.S.A.).—Your three-in-one aeroplane invention may be marvellous, but America is the land of invention, so why worry us?

S. B. AND A. O. (Stratford).—We have already referred to the practice of Co-operative Societies of disposing of surplus funds for such purposes as relieving distress in Austria and investing in *Daily Herald* "debentures." Members who disapprove should bring pressure to bear on their Committees.

"ADMIRER" (London).—"Some ne'er returned; some crippled came, Are they to be forgotten; If the rich don't help they're much to blame, Such conduct will be rotten." Sir, your flow of language is beautiful.

"PYTHAGOREAN" (Kensington).—"As a poor man just about to purchase a small car for combined business and private use, I am hardly enthusiastic on the proposed increase of taxes on motor vehicles." Let's hope it's for weal and not for woe.

"JOKER" (Barry, Ireland).—"Excuse me, but did you ever go to the Devil's Ball?" No. Only those attend the Devil's dances who like the Devil's tunes.

W. C. (Horwich).—Sorry that by a printer's slip a recent paragraph regarding Norwich Cattle Market was made to refer to your town. However, as there has been no such institution in Horwich for many years, the mistake was an obvious one.

"ASHLAR" (Guernsey).—So you think if women were Masons we should "see some lovely sights." We must polish up our best spectacles.

M. H. H. (Southampton).—"This JOHN BULL Pen writes all right, doesn't it?" It does; in fact your letter would easily pass for a copperplate engraving.

J. G. (Walthamstow).—We note that you have just read "The Pilgrim's Progress." You should now try "East Lynne" and the "Decameron" of Boccaccio.

MRS. A. W. (Gretna).—Cannot say why officers of the Royal Air Force should wear swords, unless, as you suggest, it is "to cut off the head of the Man in the Moon."

R. C. (Littlemore).—"To-day in America people are drinking Florida Water." True, but we are told it has less "bite" than turpentine.

MRS. A. N. (Cumberland). — "God speed the day when we shall have Bottomley for Prime Minister." That's what we call a very civil observation.

R. M. D. (Islington).—The American articles your friend wishes to see appeared in our issues of January 31st, February 7th and March 13th last. We note the portion of her letter in which she says, "Don't let the name of JOHN BULL appear, or it will be stolen *en route*."

P. L. (Dublin).—Mr. E. Hurlock, of 18, Canterbury Road, Croydon, seems so anxious to get hold of your £2 on the plea that by appointment as his "Special Wholesale Agent" you will "economise," that you should make a start in that desirable practice by saving your two Bradburys.

R. D. W. (Rotherham).—"Dear John, I have begun to think That those who eat and those who drink. Are very near starvation's brink, Now Austen rules." Then those who drink and those who eat Must strive his purpose to defeat—If next time he don't lose his seat They will be fools!

"DON" (Hertford) apropos of the *Daily Herald*, writes: "Surely to God it is time such a damned rag as that was suppressed!" Such expressions are not nearly vigorous enough for a paper that can announce on its contents sheets: "More outrages by soldiers in Ireland."

"CLERICUS" (Leven).—"A time sheet has to be made up daily by the clerks and clerkesses." "Clerkesses" is new on us, but we rather like it.

"TIME SERVER" (Cyprus).—The Rev. Mr. Vale Owen will receive less "spirit messages" than he used to. Spirits have gone up two shillings a bottle.

E. R. E. (Ramsgate).—"I advertised an antique bedstead for sale . . . received 20 letters from girls offering friendship and with a view to marriage. Extract: 'Age 20, good-looking, cuddlesome.'" Don't sell that bedstead.

MRS. —— (Barracks).—Next time think before you "write to JOHN BULL about it."

"KING WIT" (Birmingham).—"I hold the secret of sex and birth, and I am sorry to say that it will and must die with me." It didn't die with Schenk, who maintained that it all depends on sugar.

N. (Clerkenwell).—We can't prevent the missus throwing things at you. If you kept sober you would be able to dodge 'em.

"FANNY" (Birmingham).—"I should like to call your attention to the actions of Mr. ——. The part he did in the great war was to strut about in the local volunteers' uniform on Sundays." We should not be justified in a personal attack on him.

"WORKER" (Vauxhall) says that the L.C.C. have not only raised the tram fares but have also put on small cars at workmen's times. L.C.C. trams are always run on hard lines.

"PARENT" (St. Albans).—Afraid we cannot tell you why editors of other papers have not published your caution to parents against placing their sons in the Merchant Service, owing to the high cost of training and the small pay given to officers. Caution hereby given.

C. K. (Lewisham).—JOHN BULL Pen coupons to the value of 1s. will be accepted in part payment at any of our Pen Depots—19, Ludgate Hill, 823, High Holborn, and 265, Strand.

E. S. M. (Mansfield).—The reason why the wages of dental mechanics have not risen since 1914 so as to keep pace with the rise in the cost of living is probably due to the fact you mention—absence of a trade union. The moral seems obvious.

J. J. L. (Preston).—Thanks for copy of paragraph in N.S.P.C.C. *Journal* containing flattering reference to ourselves. It is a pleasure to work hand in hand with this excellent organisation.

A. B. (Ireland).—"Love to all English boys." That from the Emerald Isle is a sentiment at once rare and refreshing.

"SIMPLE JUSTICE" (Holywood).—"By all means make Ireland a Commonwealth within the British Empire." Thank you; we will see to it.

E. E. K. (Saskatchewan). — "The Prohibition crank is shouting his fool head off." That's the best news we have heard for some time.

"READER" (Woking).—"Shame on old Austen for hitting the workingman." Cheer up, old son; you live near the crematorium.

B. F. A. (Charlton).—Afraid your proposed guessing competition won't do—the names of the firms spending most money on advertisement being, of course, well known in the advertising world.

W. G. M. (Bath).—If Government control is the cause of the great advance in the price of sulphate of ammonia, no doubt it also accounts for the increase in the price of jalap.

C. H. (Marazion).—"Why should the massage houses or 'lust houses' be attacked? What harm do they do?" You are either a cynic or a simpleton.

(Many replies are unavoidably held over.)

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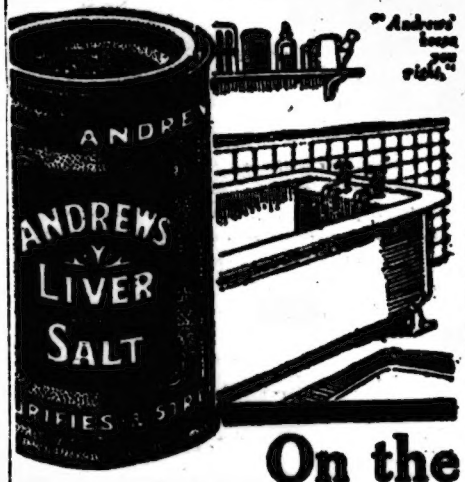

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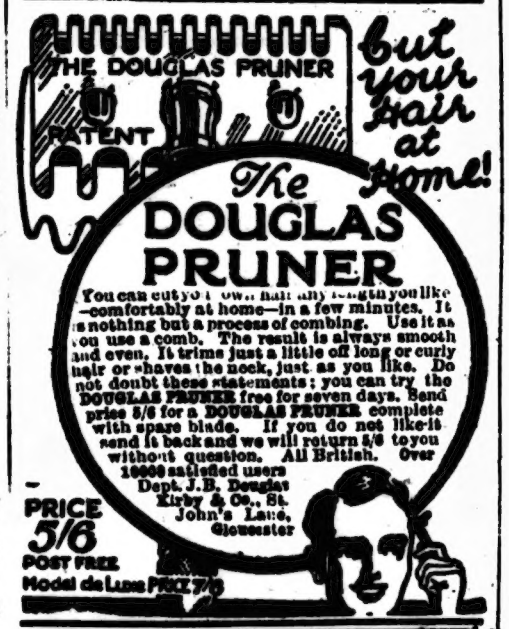
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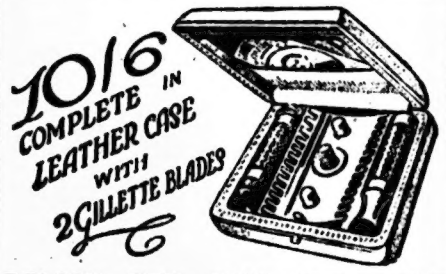

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BOTTOMLEY'S WAY	FAST FAVOURITE	IRISH SPIRIT	MIXED BLESSING
REACHING THE LIMIT	BORROWED PLUMES	BEHIND THE BAR	A SQUARE DEAL
BAD FORM	MADE TO ORDER	OVERLOOKED	THE WRONG MAN
ALL AT ONCE	ALL THAT MATTERS	GENERALLY SPEAKING	CONTENTED
DRIVEN FROM HOME	SPINNING YARNS	IN A HURRY	GIVING IT UP
BRUTE FORCE	CALLING TIME	PUTTING ALL ON	WINNING BY TRICKS
STANDS TO REASON	ALWAYS AT HOME	BOWLED OUT	STARTLING REVELATIONS
NOTHING FRESH	FOUL PLAY	WAITING FOR ORDERS	FUNNY FELLOW

Closing Date, Thursday, May 20th.

No._____
Example_____
Bullet_____
Example_____
Bullet_____

(375) P.O. No._____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
If 1 coupon is used P.O. for 6d. must be sent.

Signed_____
Address_____

If unable to secure extra coupons you can write your "Bullets" on plain paper.

Closing Date, Thursday, May 20th.

No._____
Example_____
Bullet_____
Example_____
Bullet_____

(375) P.O. No._____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
If 2 coupons are used P.O. for 1/- must be sent.

Signed_____
Address_____

Envelopes should be marked "Bullets" No. 375, "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

Closing Date, Thursday, May 20th.

No._____
Example_____
Bullet_____
Example_____
Bullet_____

(375) P.O. No._____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
If 3 coupons are used P.O. for 1/6 must be sent.

Signed_____
Address_____

Closing Date, Thursday, May 20th.

No._____
Example_____
Bullet_____
Example_____
Bullet_____

(375) P.O. No._____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
If 4 coupons are used P.O. for 2/- must be sent.

Signed_____
Address_____

Selection of Examples for "Bullets" Competition No. 376.

LYING STILL—OVER THE RHINE—MAID OF ALL WORK—RULE BRITANNIA—LABOUR'S AMBITION—REGARDLESS OF COST—MODERN DRESS—A MAN'S JOB—FETCHES THE GIRLS—MAKES GERMANY LAUGH—PAYING THE MINERS—BRIGHTER OUTLOOK—WHEN MOTHER'S OUT—GETTING HOME—NOTICE TO QUIT—WHEN BOTTOMLEY RISES—HOLIDAY EXPENSES—WHEN FORTUNE FROWNS.

These examples can be made use of on the coupons above, and must reach us on or before **THURSDAY, JUNE 3rd.** All coupons so used **MUST** be clearly marked with the number **376** in the top left-hand corner, and envelopes containing these coupons must be addressed "Bullets" No. **376**, "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Such coupons must not contain any of the Thirty-two examples for Competition **375.**

A Complete list of Cash and other Prize Winners can be seen at the Offices of "John Bull."

Result of 373rd 'Bullets' Competition

FIRST PRIZE OF £250:
Mr. WILLIAM CAREY,
18, Shuttleworth St, Earby, via Colne, Lancs.
Example:—IRISH STEW.
Bullet:—WONDER WHAT'S "TO FOLLOW."

SECOND PRIZE OF £20:
Mr. J. A. CALDWELL,
21, Montgomery Road, Edgware.
Example:—THE BIG NOISE.
Bullet:—THAT'S GERMANY "AT WORK."

THIRD PRIZE OF £10:
Mr. W. J. CAIN,
41, Ledbury Road, Bayswater, W.2.
Example:—WINNING BY HEAD.
Bullet:—SAVES RETURNING BY FOOT.

10 PRIZES OF £5 EACH:

MR. W. S. GOUGH, 13, Groves Street, Roxbourne, Swindon:
GRASPING—POWER—WRONG PEOPLE OFTEN.

MR. F. NEWBOUND, 120, Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth:
MOST TIRESOME WHEN—MILLIONAIRE TELLS US HOW.

MISS DILWORTH, Ickford, near Thame, Oxon:
MODERN MAID—OF ALL WORK—ELECTRICITY.

MR. C. W. BICKLE, 51, Alcester Street, Devonport:
FACING THE FACTS—WHEN STRIKER GETS INDOORS.

MR. C. H. BRIDGES, "Myrtle," Mayfield Road, East Cowes, Isle of Wight:
ALL OUT—LABOUR'S DEMANDS HAVEN'T RUN.

MISS THOMAS, 1, Hurst Grove, Aberdare, South Wales:
MODERN MAID—IN BOUDOIR—NOT BASEMENT.

MR. H. HAIG, c.o. Betty, 7, Russell Street, Brixton Road, S.W.9:
COME TO STAY—IN IRELAND—TOMMY'S THINKING

MR. E. BURKIN, 22, Nightingale Lane, Bickley, Kent:
THANKLESS TASK—CHANCELLOR CONGRATULATES HIMSELF.

MR. J. DAWSON, 29, Arthington Street, Bradford:
FACING THE FACTS—AND RHINE—SAFEST POLICY

MR. F. MAGUIRE, Ocean View, Bundoran, Co. Donegal:
PLEASES THE CROWD—THAT'S THE GAME NOW.

10 PRIZES OF £2 10s. EACH:

MR. W. ADDISON, 27, Peel Street, Thornaby-on-Tees:
ALL THERE—OFFICIALS FOR "ONE THING."

MR. BROWNRIDGE, 45, Denys Road, Southampton:
DOING HIS BIT—OF GROUSING—TOMMY'S JUSTIFIED.

MR. H. VINCENT, 14, Addington Street, Ramsgate:
GRASPING—SOME GOLD—OTHERS STRAWS.

MR. C. T. LOCKWOOD, 23, Somersel Street, Barnsley:
PLEASES THE CROWD—SOVIET GOVERNMENT—UNTIL ESTABLISHED.
(Sent in on a Free "Target" Prize Coupon).

MR. S. H. HICKLING, 20, Haughton Road, Handsworth, Birmingham:
FEELING HAPPY—FATHER WHEN HOLIDAYS CEASE.

MR. J. E. SMITH, "Durham Ox" Inn, Hurdsfield Road, Macclesfield:
WINNING BY HEAD—IF IT'S NOT SWELLED.

MRS. M. R. BRUNTON, 10, Airlie Terrace, Dundee:
IN GOOD TIME—LABOUR WILL "MANAGE EVERYTHING."

MR. K. STREET, 279, Warrington Road, Pemberton, Wigan:
THE BIG NOISE—PROFITEER THINKS CHAMPAGNE CORK.

MR. J. F. OSBORNE, 183, Bellfield Street, Glasgow:
FAMILY MAN—KNOWS VALUE OF "LEATHER."

MISS I. CUTLER, 14, Norman Road, Thornton Heath:
FINAL RESULT—OF SOCIALISM—EVERYONE OFFICIALS.

BULLETS RULES.

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Judges, in consultation with the Editor, is the best "Bullet" received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality.
2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.
3. All four coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d. made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed _____ and Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Coupons must not be mutilated.
4. All coupons arriving too late to be judged with absolute thoroughness will be duly returned.
5. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.
6. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

THE JOHN BULL GREAT FREE FIRE INSURANCE

COVERING ALL RISKS BY FIRE TO HOME, LIFE & LIMB.

UNDER this most unique FREE INSURANCE OFFER anyone above the age of 10 can be insured irrespective of sex. The premium charged by any Fire and Accident Insurance Company to secure similar benefits would certainly exceed 5s. per annum. We offer it to you absolutely free.

We have made our insurance as simple and comprehensive as possible, and shall not bother about any "Legal representative" or "next of kin." Claims will be paid to the registered reader, who must personally sign the coupon, or to the person nominated thereon, and to no one else.

A separate coupon must be filled up in respect to each person to be insured.

This offer applies only to persons residing in, and property situated in, England, Scotland, and Wales.

The full conditions governing this scheme will be published in the first issue of each month.

WHAT WE WILL PAY:

For Damage to contents of Home by Fire up to	£200
In case of Death directly due to Fire at Registered Reader's home	£200
For the Loss of Two Limbs or Both Eyes, or One Limb and One Eye	£200
For the Loss of One Limb or One Eye ..	£100
Medical Fees for Injuries not proving fatal but incapacitating the injured person from following his, or her, employment, up to ..	£10
In the event of a Temporary Total Disablement up to 13 weeks..	£1 per week

ORDER FORM
To be Completed by Newsagents.

To .....
Newsagent.

Please deliver "JOHN BULL" to me regularly until further notice.

Signed .....

Address .....

May 15, 1920.

You must also fill in the Registration Form, which will be found next to this, and post it to JOHN BULL Insurance Dept. 98, Long Acre, London, W.C.2, where your name and the name of your nominee will be duly registered.

REGISTRATION FORM
Which must be posted to—
JOHN BULL INSURANCE DEPT., Long Acre, W.C.2.

This is to notify that I have this day placed an order for the regular weekly supply of JOHN BULL with

.....Newsagent, of

.....
and desire you to register me as a regular subscriber under the terms of your Insurance Scheme.

In the event of my being injured or killed, or of my home or its contents being damaged, I hereby nominate to receive any payment due under this insurance, first myself, or in the event of my death:—

Name of Nominee .....

Address .....

Signature of Insured .....
(Mr., Mrs., or Miss)

Home Address .....

May 15, 1920 .....

To remain qualified for the benefits, readers must continue to have "John Bull" regularly supplied to them.

Enclose 1d. stamp if an acknowledgment of receipt of Registration Form is required.

Huge DERBY Prize! No Entrance Fee

£1,000 MUST BE WON!

FOR NAMING 1ST FOUR HORSES IN THE DERBY OR NEXT BEST COUPON

This Week we are offering the huge Prize of £1,000 for naming the first four horses in the Derby, or for the next best Coupon received. Remember, there is **NO ENTRANCE FEE** and £1,000 **MUST BE WON** in any event. All you have to do is to write on the Coupon below the names of the horses you think will finish 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th respectively.

LIST OF PROBABLE STARTERS.

ABBOT'S TRACE	EIGHTH DIVISION	HARBERO	SORANUS
ALDER	FIREWORK	MARSHAL NEIL	SORREL
ALDERSEY	GATTABELAYA	NEMINA	SPEARWORT
ALLENBY	GLEN EAGLE	NIGHTY POWER	SPION KOP
ARCHIAS	GOLDEN GUINEA	ORPHEUS	SPRIG OF ORANGE
ATTILIUS	GREAT FUR	PALADIN	STEDANDA
BANTRY	GREAT JOY	PELOPS	SURGAT
BRUCE LOCKE	GREAT SEAL	POLTAVA	SWINDALE
CALIGULA	GREEK VINE	POLUMETIS	SYTHSURN
CALLAGHAN	HERODIADA	POLYDIPSIA	TEA TRAY
CAMARALZAMAN	HE GOES	POLYDOR	TETRATEMA
CELESTIAL	INDIAN GAUZE	PONTELAND	TETRAMETER
CHARLEBELLE	JOHN ASTUTE	PREMIUM BOND	TREDENNORD
CHARLIE WISE	KERRAGOS	PRINCE GALAHAD	THE O'MALLEY
CHRYSOPOLIS	KING WINS	RARA AVIS	THE SHARK
THE CLOWN	KIRKALLOWAY	SAINTLY SINNER	VIVALDI
DAYLIGHT PATROL	LLAMA	SARCHEDON	WIMASU
DOUBLE BED	LORD THANET	SERMENT D'AMOUR	WING COMMANDER
DYNARO	MANTON	SILVERN	ZERDINO

This list is published for the assistance of competitors and every care has been taken to ensure its accuracy. We do not, however, guarantee that the name of every possible runner has been included. We would advise competitors to make a careful study of the Sporting columns in the various newspapers before filling up these coupons.

READ THESE RULES CAREFULLY.

RULES (which must be strictly adhered to).

1. All attempts must be made on coupons taken from the issue of JOHN BULL and "The National News" announcing this Competition. Coupons must be written in ink, and must be filled up in accordance with the instructions given on this page.

2. The sum of £1,000 (one thousand pounds) will be paid to the sender of a coupon placing the first four horses in accordance with the official result of the Derby to be run June 2nd, 1920. If no competitor succeeds in placing the first four horses, the £1,000 will be awarded to the sender of the coupon placing the first three. If no competitor succeeds in placing a coupon with the first four or three horses, the £1,000 will be awarded to the sender of the best coupon received. In the event of a tie, or ties, the £1,000 prize will be equally divided. No competitor can receive more than one share of the £1,000.

3. No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any coupon. Proof of posting will not be accepted as proof of delivery or receipt. No correspondence will be entered into nor will interviews be granted. Any coupon on which an alteration of any kind has been made will be disqualified.

4. Any coupons received later than Monday, May 31st, will be disqualified.

5. The Editor's decision must be accepted as final and legally binding in all matters concerning this Competition, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

This Competition is run in conjunction with "The National News."

Cut Here

Cut out Coupon neatly, and address all Entries as follows: "Derby Competition, JOHN BULL, 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C. 2." Write "Derby" in the top left-hand corner of envelope.

COMPETITORS CAN SEND AS MANY COUPONS AS THEY LIKE.

"JOHN BULL" FREE DERBY COUPON

CLOSING DATE, MONDAY, MAY 31st.

HOW TO FILL IN THIS COUPON.

In the spaces below, opposite the words "1st," "2nd," "3rd" and "4th" respectively, **WRITE IN INK** the names of the horses you think will finish in that order.

Cut Here

1st.....

2nd.....

3rd.....

4th.....

☛ **Coupons must be cut—not torn out.**

I enter "JOHN BULL" Derby Competition in accordance with the Rules and Conditions on this page, and agree to accept the Editor's decision as final and legally binding, and enter on that understanding.

Signed .....

Address.....

.....

Derby Competition

Cut Here

USE THE POST

IT is impossible for everyone interested in our clothing offer to visit our store. BUT the postman can hand to you exactly the same patterns of suitings as could our tailors and salesmen. Then it's comfortable to decide in your own home what pattern you will have utilised in your next suit. You see, your wife or sister can help you select, and they are excellent judges of cloth value.

Cash or Credit.

Write for patterns at once. With patterns and simple self-measurement form and Styles.

EVERY SUIT MADE TO MEASURE

CATESBYS LTD.,

Dept. 19, Tottenham Court Rd., London, W.

50/- Carr. paid!

2 Heavy Blankets
1 "Alhambra" Quilt
2 Pillow Cases
1 Bolster Case
2 Long Curtains
1 Large Tablecloth
1 Hearthrug (Free)

GREATEST GENUINE BARGAIN EVER OFFERED TO PUBLIC.

Pair of heavy-made full double-bed size beautifully whipped white fleecy Blankets. One splendid full double-bed size real "Alhambra" Quilt. Two hemmed white Bleached Pillow Cases. One hemmed white Bleached Bolster Case.

Pair of heavy floral closely patterned White or Ecru real "Nottingham" lace Curtains. One large size lovely design hemmed and finished White Damask Dining Table Cloth.

FREE. One large size neatly patterned and finished genuine British-made Fringed Hearth-Rug.

This splendid Bargain Bale sent Carriage paid to any address for only 50/-

[Under New Proprietorship.]

Money returned in full if not absolutely satisfied.

Send at once and secure this genuine offer (Colonial Orders, 5s. extra).

THE MILTON DRAPERY STORES (Dept B), PADIHAM, LANCS

Hindes

HAIR TINT FOR GREY OR FADED HAIR.

Tints grey or faded hair any natural shade desired — brown, dark-brown, light-brown or black. It is permanent and washable, has no grease, and does not burn the hair. It is used by over three-quarters of a million people. A Medical Certificate accompanies each bottle. Of all Chemists, Stores, and Hairdressers, 2/6 the Flask or direct from HINDES Ltd., 1, Tabernacle Street, City, London.

Patentees and Manufacturers of the World-Famous Hindes Wavers.

BANISH THE BLUES!

by keeping your Liver, Stomach, and Digestion right through taking

DR. SANDS' LIVER SEEDS

(*Registered Trade Mark.*)

1/3 of all Chemists; 1/5 post free, from SANDS' MEDICINE CO., LTD., 58, Hanover Street, LIVERPOOL.

Kynoch Bicycles

Take to the open road on a machine of our make; it will satisfy you.

For Illustrated Catalogue "B" write—

KYNOCH LIMITED

LION WORKS, WITTON, BIRMINGHAM

"MILES AHEAD OF SOAP"

GRESOLVENT

INSTANTLY DISSOLVES GREASE & GRIME

For the Hands and the Household. In Tins at 4½d., 8d. and 1/9.

THE WISDOM

of bestowing careful attention on the all-important matter of health is unquestionable. Good Health is essential to the full enjoyment of life. In every sphere of activity a condition of good health will bring to the happy possessor advantages that nothing else can secure. People are usually pleasant to meet and deal with when they are fit and well, because you rarely find them "down in the dumps," or depressed and imagining that everything is going wrong. The immense importance

OF TAKING

watchful care of the digestive system should be appreciated by all. One of the surest ways of preserving the health is by maintaining a sound digestion. The principal organs connected therewith need not be allowed to get out of order if you take Beecham's Pills. This excellent and popular medicine regulates the bowels, strengthens the stomach, removes bilious conditions, banishes headache and is a splendid tonic and blood-purifier. Those who have proved their value by taking them, always speak in highest terms of

BEECHAM'S PILLS.

Sold everywhere in boxes, labelled 1s-3d and 3s-6d.

It is not the Liver

It is INDIGESTION

in STOMACH AND BOWEL.

CICFA Restores DIGESTION

When you are travelling, visiting, or eating away from home, it is not the Liver, it is Bowel Indigestion which causes that troublesome CONSTIPATION. Cicfa restores Digestion.

READ THE REASON WHY.

You have a Liver. You think it is affected. The chances are 10 to 1 that your Liver itself is perfectly sound, but its action is being upset by frequently dosing it with purgatives, etc., and as a consequence your food is not digesting, but fermenting, and creating gases.

As it is rolled down the Bowel the starchy part, like bread, potatoes, beans, etc., is formed into little hard

GASES in Stomach or eructations.
Sharp Neuralgic HEADACHES.
ACID in Stomach with HEARTBURN.
TONGUE coated white all over.
COMPLEXION blotchy, with redness of Nose, Spots and Pimples.
EATING not desired. Vomiting occasionally.
PAINS darting through Chest and Burning Spot between Shoulder Blades.
GASES in BOWEL or Flatulence.
Dull, Heavy HEADACHES.
ACID in the Blood, causing (a) Itch, or slips; (b) Gout; (c) Rheumatism.
TONGUE coated yellow at back.
COMPLEXION dusky or pasty.
EATING distasteful or tasteless. Biliousness and foul taste in mouth.
PAINS in Bowels, Kidneys and Liver.

dry masses or "Starch-Balls," which block the passage, and you have Constipation, also a defective Bile Circulation. Fermentation continues, and acids and impurities from the undigested food are absorbed through the wall of the Bowel into the blood and poured on into the Liver. Though your Liver may be quite healthy, it is soon overworked and giving you troublesome symptoms; therefore, your symptoms are not due to an affected Liver, but to those acids and impurities which are formed by Indigestion in the Bowel and carried on to the Liver.

Your blood becomes impure and more acid, affecting your joints and deep muscles, causing Rheumatism, Lumbago, and Sciatica.

It is therefore useless to treat the Rheumatism, the Lumbago, the Sciatica, or the Liver. They are not at fault. The fault lies in the Bowel Indigestion. You must remove that Indigestion.

Probably you suffer also from Acid Dyspepsia.

Whether you have Acid Dyspepsia or some other form of Stomach Indigestion, it should receive immediate attention, because each stage of Digestion affects each succeeding stage, so that the upsetting of digestion in one portion of the tract quickly affects digestion in other portions. Ordinary Indigestion remedies, such as Pepsin, Bismuth, Soda, Rhubarb, etc., cannot therefore be expected to cure you, for at best they can only help in local spots, **while any Remedy which can Cure must be able to correct the errors of Digestion wherever they are occurring throughout the whole alimentary tract.**

Cicfa can do this because Cicfa restores Digestion at every point along the whole alimentary tract.

Cicfa ensures complete digestion of all the Albuminous food in the Stomach and all the Starchy food in the Bowel, corrects the Bile Circulation, prevents fermentation and the formation of "Starch Balls," so that all the nourishment is absorbed into the blood, the refuse is normal, and there can be no Constipation. Cicfa, in fact, ensures the formation of such Digestive Ferments as Nature requires.

40 YEARS A CHEMIST

Never recommended patent medicines, but he recommends and uses Cicfa. Read what he says:

8th Feb., 1919.

I am writing to inform you of the great benefit I have derived from Cicfa. I have been a sufferer from Indigestion for some time, and have tried many remedies without effect. A friend persuaded me to try Cicfa, and the result has been marvellous. **All fermentation of food and flatulence have disappeared,** and I look forward with pleasure to a meal instead of dread, as formerly. **I HAVE BEEN IN BUSINESS AS A CHEMIST FOR OVER 40 YEARS,** and have never recommended patent medicines, but I can with confidence advise any sufferer from Indigestion to give Cicfa a trial. (Signed) "G."

18,000 BRITISH DOCTORS

have taken up Cicfa. Hundreds of them have written us privately of the splendid results which they have obtained by its use. When thousands of British doctors are satisfied with Cicfa you do not need a sample with which to test it. There can be no better proof. You can proceed to take it at once. **Purchased from all Chemists at 1s. 3d. and 3s.**

THE CICFA COMPANY,

8a, Duke Street, Manchester Sq., London

John Bull 15/5/20

Here it is——

Just the Raincoat you need at Manufacturer's price

No matter where you look, where you go or where you enquire, nowhere can you get the equal in quality and value to

THE STYLISH **SARTOR Raincoat**

Price **34/6**

Just sit down **NOW** *and write a postcard for our new Art Catalogue.*

It is a revelation in value—it tells you how you can save half your money on your new Raincoat.

For the Sartor is Genuine 3-Guinea value.

It illustrates Sartor Raincoats in Ladies', Maids', Gent's, and Youths' styles, made in quality Gabardine, check lined and finished to perfection.

Send your postcard now, and our Catalogue will follow by return, with free selection of patterns of cloth. You take no risk in dealing with Sartor. Satisfaction is guaranteed or your money refunded in full.

SARTOR MANUFACTURING CO.

(Dept. J), 55, OXFORD ROAD, MANCHESTER.

GRAVES

OF SHEFFIELD

Write for patterns, post free, of Overcoats, Suits, Costumes, Paletots, Raincoats, Mackintoshes etc., or Catalogues of Footwear, Wool Scarfs, Drapery, Ladies' and Children's Clothing, Sheffield Cutlery, Gramophones and Records, Tea and Dinner Services, Bedsteads, Bedding, Sewing Machines, Curtns, Tyres, Carpets and Lino, Poultry & Appliances, etc. Grand values.

EASY J. G. GRAVES LTD. SHEFFIELD. **TERMS**

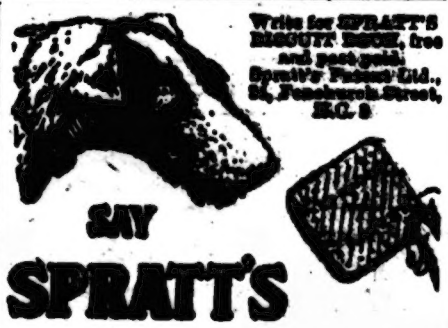
LISTS FREE

BICYCLES

At pounds below shop prices. Write now for Clearance Lists. Swifts, Triumphs, Rovers, Cyclones, Court Royals, Premiers, &c. Cash or Instalments from £9 cash. (Maker's price £15 15s.)

GEORGE KING, Ltd.,

Great Cycle Dealers, COVENTRY.



Write for SPRATT'S BISCUIT BOOK, free and post paid. Spratt's Patent Ltd., 24, Fenchurch Street, E.C. 3

SAY SPRATT'S

Don't leave the quality of your dog's food to chance and the dealer. There's still nothing like SPRATT'S for health, stamina and abundant vitality. Say "SPRATT'S!"

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